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THE Fisherman

—THE LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION—

July 11th—17th, 1985
Volume 20, Number 27

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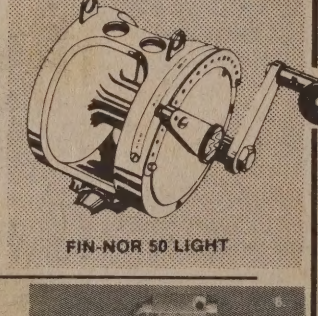

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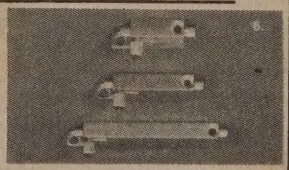

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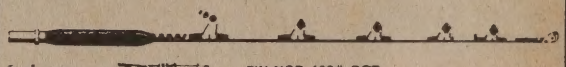

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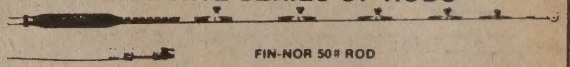

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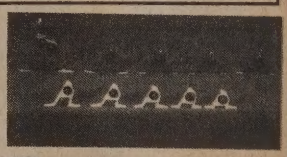

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THE Fisherman

—THE LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION—

Volume 20, Number 27 July 11th, 1985

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ABOUT THE COVER:

Catching fluke on artificials is growing in popularity among Long Island and Metropolitan area anglers. For more on this sporting and effective way to catch summer flatties, see Dick Mermon's article on page 38. Cover photo by Dick Mermon.

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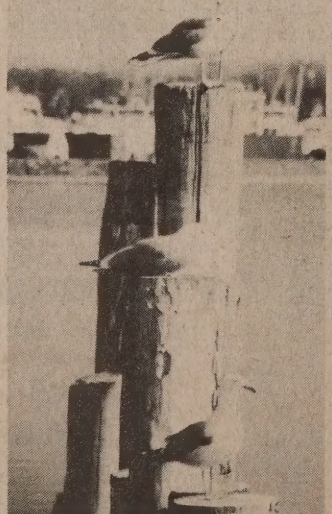

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TUNA POLICY STILL PLAGUES BILLFISH CONSERVATION

The Atlantic Billfish Plan, dormant since 1982, is being revived by the regional councils as they are confronted with declining stocks and a rapidly growing domestic longline fishery. But the inability of the councils to regulate fishing for tunas remains a barrier to conservation.

The councils have new information showing that the stocks of billfish, specifically marlin, are worse off than was previously thought. (Sailfish seem to be in pretty good shape.) Measures to reverse the decline must come to grips with the burgeoning U.S. tuna longline fishery, which takes a "substantial" by-catch of billfish.

The five councils involved agree that the overall objective of the billfish plan should be to maintain the species as a recreational resource. The dilemma they face is how to do that without inhibiting the commercial tuna fisheries. The first concern of the councils is preventing the development of a commercial market for billfish in this country. To this end, they are considering no-sale and no-possession provisions in the plan. This would effectively stop the sale of billfish caught by U.S. fishermen, but it would not necessarily reduce the mortality of billfish. Longlines are notoriously non-selective and as long as they are used will continue to hook large numbers of marlin. Most, if not all of those cut loose by the longliners are dead or dying. The same is true of foreign fleets operating within U.S. waters.

The councils can control the dispensation of the billfish by-catch, but they cannot directly reduce that by-catch without regulating tuna fishing, which they are prohibited from doing under the Magnuson Act's tuna exclusion. The National Marine Fisheries Service must be persuaded to compel domestic fishermen to make their longlines more selective and to limit the number of vessels and the amount of gear allowed in the tuna fishery. Time and area closures imposed on both domestic and foreign fleets to limit longline fishing in spawning areas such as the Gulf of Mexico are also critical. International cooperation through ICCAT seems unlikely, since most other nations view marlin as a food fish. Perhaps the best that can be hoped for is an improved exchange of data among ICCAT member nations on billfish catches in the Atlantic.

The councils should act quickly to do what is within their limited power, which is outlaw the possession and sale of marlin and sailfish by commercial tuna fishermen, and put pressure on NMFS to work closely with U.S. fishermen to limit their incidental catch of billfish. But billfish conservation remains the strongest argument for including tunas in the Magnuson act. Until we are able to end the slaughter of of billfish by tuna longliners, both foreign and domestic, we can probably do very litle to halt the decline.

FREEPORT TUNA CLUB TOURNAMENT

The American Cancer Society will again be the beneficiary of the proceeds from the sale of all fish taken in the 11th Annual Freeport Fishing Festival which will be held on August 3, 1985.

The tournament will operate from the Guy Lombardo Marina in Freeport. There will be competition for shark, tuna, billfish and bluefish. The tournament is open to both clubs and individual fishermen. Tournament prizes will be custom built Sea Isle rods and matching Penn International reels.

Each boat that enters will receive two nights dockage, bait, 2 cans chum, insignia patches with date bar and 5 tickets to the awards dinner which will follow the tournament. All of the above is included in the entry fee of $180.

For information and application, call Mike Sullivan, 516-379-4373 or Bob Lederer, 516-536-0525.

MONTAUK MARINE BASIN SHARK HUNT

Set aside July 13th and 14th for the $25,000 Shark Hunt at Montauk Marine Basin's 15th Annual Shark Tournament. As in the past, this weekend of fun and excitement is geared to the serious sport fisherman.

Cash awards and prizes will be given for the largest sharks, in several categories, with total cash prizes of $25,000.

Tagging is a major part of this tournament and Dr. Jack Casey of the Narragansett National Marine Science Laboratory will be on hand to answer questions pertaining to the mysteries of the sharks and their habits.

Along with the several private sport fishing boats entered, charter boats and crews can be arranged for any size party, by calling the Montauk Marine Charter Service at (516) 668-5900.

Montauk Marine Basin is proud to add that it will again be awarding scholarships for students majoring in marine sciences at colleges on Long Island.

The contest is limited to 70 boats with space filling up fast! Don't miss out on the action. Entry applications are available at the Montauk Marine Basin, by calling (516) 668-5900 or writing P.O. Box 610, Montauk, NY

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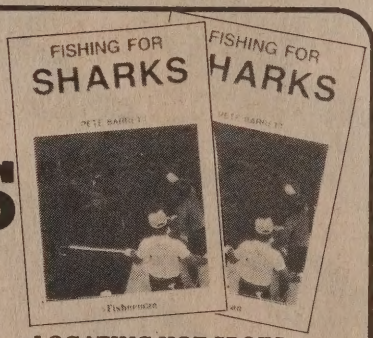

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11954, attention Tournament Coordinator.

HALPIN BILL ALLOWS REVOCATION OF STRIPED BASS LICENSES

The State Assembly has passed legislation giving the Department of Environmental Conservation authority to revoke striped bass licenses. The bill's sponsor, Assembly Patrick Halpin (D-Lindenhurst), said the measure corrects an apparent oversight in a 1983 law establishing a striped bass management plan.

"By passing this legislation we have put some teeth in the law," said Halpin. "The DEC already has the authority to revoke other licenses or permits it issues; so this measure simply brings striped bass licenses under the same authority. This, in the long run, will enable the DEC to better manage our striped bass stock."

Halpin's bill authorizes the DEC to suspend or cancel striped bass licenses if it deems it would be in the public interest to do so. The bill also prohibits the use of nets to take fish from the Hudson River.

"This legislation gives the department effective resources when punishing those who fish in prohibited, polluted waters," said Halpin. "This is especially important in view of the high concentration of PCBs found in Long Island's waters. The safety and well being of all Long Island is better protected under the provisions of this new legislation."

BABYLON TUNA CLUB'S 29TH ANNUAL OFFSHORE TOURNAMENT

The Babylon Tuna Club is pleased to announce its 29th Annual Tuna, Bluefish, Shark and Billfish Tournament to be held at the new Babylon Town Dock on July 27th and 28th. All boats entering must be at least 23 feet in length and equipped with VHF or CB radio.

Three boat club teams will be competing for club prizes. Individual entries compete for awards plus cash prizes totaling $20,000. Mooring facilities at the Babylon Town Dock will be available without cost to the tournament participants. Due to limited dock space, berths will be assigned on a first come, first served basis.

This year's entry fee is $250 for the day boats (total for both days) and $500 per boat for the overnight category. There will be no additional anglers fees. Bait and chum will **not** be provided; however, it will be readily available in the immediate vicinity of the dock, along with fuel.

A captain's meeting will be held on Friday, July 26, at 8PM on the town dock. At this time, rules will be explained, questions answered, boat numbers, patches and literature will be distributed. All awards will be made Sunday, July 28 at the dock afte the weigh-in.

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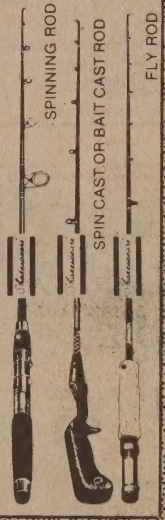

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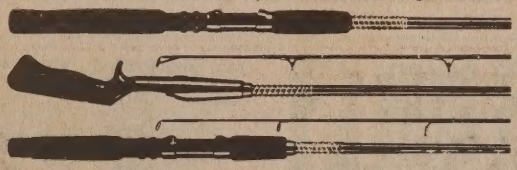

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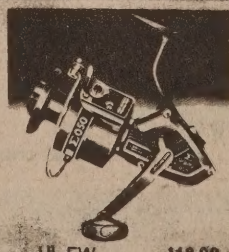

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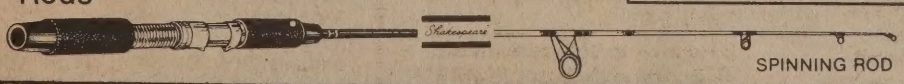
SP 1370	8'3"	Medium Light Downrigger	$30.99
CA 1370	7'0"	Medium Popping	$23.99
CA 1350	7'0"	Medium Popping	$18.99



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Take Route 110 two blocks north of Republic Airport
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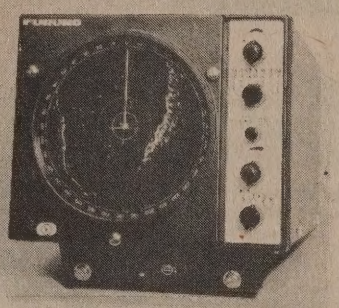
Furuno Compact Radar

The Best Small Radar Money Can Buy.



All Furuno small radars offer sleek, attractive styling and rugged, commercial performance to meet the requirements of an exceptionally broad range of vessel operators. They share the same size extremely compact display, as well as Furuno's unique microwave IC circuitry that doubles receiver sensitivity over other radar designs.

24-mile—Two new radars offer 24 mile range, 3kW output and full 7" CRT, plus: seven range scales from ¼ to 24 n.m., dual pulse length, standard magnifier, sea and rain clutter controls. The *Model 2400* comes with a narrow-beamwidth radome antenna, while the *FR-240 MkIII* has a 3.5 foot open array.

36-mile—Packed with the latest technology, the *FR-360 MkII* has eight range scales from ¼ to 36 n.m., 3kW output power and the same attractively styled weatherproof antenna unit used for the *FR-240 MkIII*. Radar Interference Rejector is built-in

As a factory-authorized Furuno dealer, we will also provide trained technicians, competent installation, a full range of spare parts and complete warranty service. Come in and see what quality is all about.

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The 25 Deep Vee is better than ever with some new interior design changes that include a larger fuel capacity of 151 gallons, plus the option of an additional 50 gallons. Open transom "up or down" door, dry battery boxes port and starboard of engine, two large in-the-deck, flush fish boxes and a live well just forward of the transom door. Console has front seat with cooler below, large area for electronics and plenty of dry storage under the console. Three large storage boxes in the forward casting platform, recessed rod storage. All Makos are BIA approved. Rated to 300 H.P., self-bailing and foam flotation. The 25's unique hull design will give you the fast, soft, dry ride which makes this boat the bench mark for all offshore outboards. The new interior layout will only make her better. See one today at your dealer.

the property of the tournament to be auctioned at the Town Dock with all proceeds donated to the Association for The Help of Retarded Children.

Those interested in participating in this year's tournament can call Angie's Custom Tackle Shop on 669-9837 or Ray Seagren on 483-9631 or write to the Babylon Tuna Club, Attention: Invitational Tournament, Box 123, Babylon, NY 11702.

NEW HOME FOR PIPEWELDERS!

PipeWelders, Inc., announced today that their sales and installation facility has moved to a new Fort Lauderdale location. This new facility is located on the New River at: 2965 State Road 84, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312; (305) 587-8400.

The New Yard will accommodate 40 boats in protected slips with high concrete pilings. Many of these slips are also under cover. Telephone jacks are available at the slips for customer convenience. Call Vince Carr for more information.

MORE PARTY BOATS SIGN UP FOR HARBOR FESTIVAL FISHING RODEO

Participating party boats are being added to the Harbor Festival Fishing Rodeo Meister Brau Party Boat Division on almost a daily basis. The latest entrants include the Falcon from Highlands; the Shamrock and Cock Robin from Point Pleasant; The Optimist Queen from Belmar; the Capt. Joseph II and Capt. Scotty 3 from Captree; the Klondike VIII from New Rochelle; the Super Claire and North Star II from City Island; the Bronx Queen, from Bronx River and Sheepshead Bay based New Shamrock.

Previously entered were the Lenny, Yankee Sword and Skipper from Belmar; the Happy and Sea Fox from Atlantic Highlands; Sea Pigeon from Perth Amboy; Palace II from Hoboken and Manhattan; the Chopper II and III from Staten Island; Betty W. III, Dorothy B. VII, Flamingto III, Hi-Hook, Ranger VII, Zephyr, Elsie K III and Helen H. from Sheepshead Bay; the Capt. Mike II from Howard Beach; the Capt. Al and Miss Point Lookout from Point Lookout; the Capt. Lou III and V, Starstream II, Super Spray II and Miss Freeport from Freeport; the Capt. Dan, Captree Queen II, Yankee III and Speedy VII from Captree; the Casey Lee from Bay Shore and the Miss Babylon from Babylon.

Anglers fishing aboard these participating party and large charter boats during the June 27 to June 30 contest period are eligible for a share of about $50,000 in cash and merchandise prizes. Just climb aboard and you're in the contest. Customers of boats not yet entered should urge their favorite skippers to sign up before the Rodeo starts.

In order to accommodate those boats making evening trips on Sunday, June 30, the Meister Brau Party Boat Division will not end at 7PM

along with the rest of the Rodeo, but at midnight.

Every boat in the Meister Brau Party Boat Division will have at least one winner courtesy of Penn Reels. A Penn Jigmaster or other fine conventional reel will be provided for the best catch on each participating party and large charter boat in this division.

ANGLER'S GUIDE TO PLUG AND BAIT CASTING by C. Boyd Pfeiffer

For many years, the revolving spool reel seemed in danger of being eclipsed by spinning tackle. Yet in many fishing situations, revolving spool tackle and techniques add up to the method of choice, and they are enjoying a tremendous resurgence. No one is better qualified to explore this subject than Boyd Pfeiffer, a nationally revered angler, tackle expert and author of *Tackle Craft* and *The Practical Fisherman.*

The traditional casting reel and accompanying tackle, as well as modern plug and bait casting equipment, were American inventions. Pfeiffer begins with a brief historical introduction, showing the direction and extent of these developments. Chapter 1 covers the reel itself, with all its variations, sizes, and features. This is followed by detailed coverage of rods—including long rods (for such uses as steelheading), trolling rods, various conventional casting rods, popping rod types and uses, handles, actions, materials, techniques for striking and fighting fish, and much more.

Similar detail is devoted to lines; basic and sophisticated casting methods; accessories; lures and baits; ultra light tackle and small lures; the uses of heavier tackle; every kind of fresh and salt water angling with the revolving spool; and the rewarding hobby of tackle and lure collecting.

Boyd Pfeiffer presides over a nationally known mail order business, Tackle Crafters, based in Phoenix, Maryland, and is equally well known for his writing and photography. This latest Pfeiffer is enhanced by more than 200 of his pictures.

Angler's Guide to Plug and Bait Casting is available at $12.95 through Winchester Press, 220 Old New Brunswick Road, Piscataway, NJ 08854 or may be purchased at most leading book sales outlets.

PLANS UNDER WAY FOR FREEPORT BOAT SHOW . .

It's official. The contract to launch the Ninth Annual Freeport Boat Show (formerly the Greater New York In-Water Boat Show) has been signed by the Marine Trades Association, the Freeport Chamber of Commerce and the Town of Hempstead.

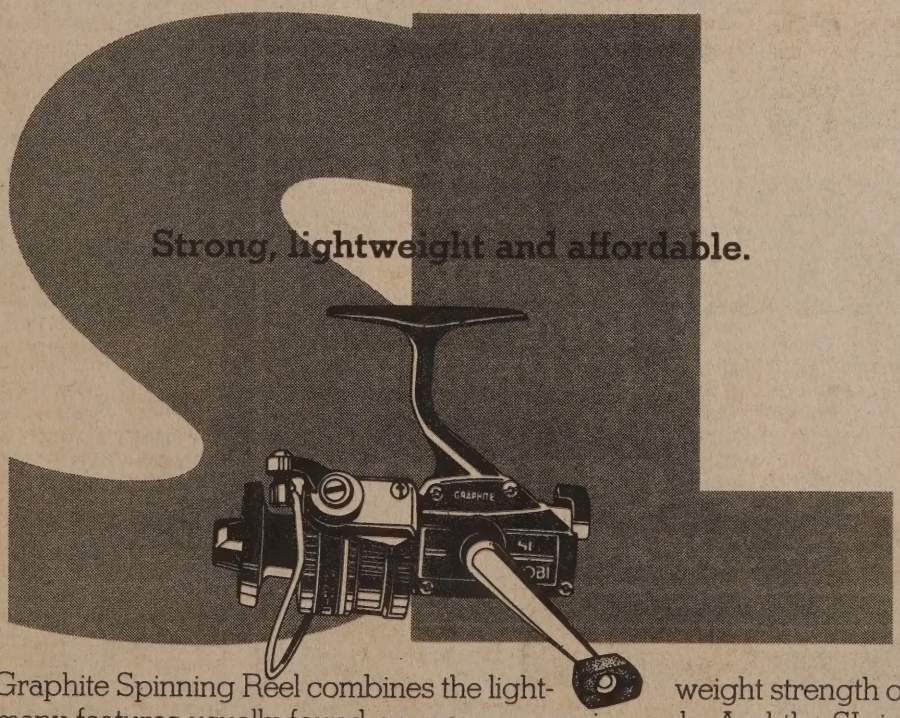
The largest regional boat show in the Northeast, the Freeport event will run from October 4 to 6 and October 11 to 14 at the Town of Hempstead's Guy Lombardo Marina. Boating enthusiasts from Manhattan to Montauk have attended the marine extravaganza in increasing numbers over the years for an update on the latest developments in craft, equipment and accessories. Last year, more than 20,000 visitors were recorded.

"Every year the event brings excitement to the Freeport waterfront," said Jim Kenney, director of the Freeport Boat Show. "We work hard to make each show bigger and better than the previous one and for the ninth consecutive year, I think we'll do just that."

Marine Trades Association president Edward Kilgus recently met with Charles Baldwin, president of the Freeport Chamber of Commerce and George Trias, Commissioner of the Department of General Services for the Town of Hempstead, to sign the agreement necessary for the successful running of the show.

Applications and contracts for exhibit space have been distributed to Marine Trades Association members and other local companies and manufacturers involved in the boating industry. Anyone interested in an application can contact the MTA office at 9 Ireland Place, Amityville, NY 11701 or call (516) 691-7050.

Visitors can look forward to seeing over 500 new boats and a wide range of marine accessories, exhibited by over 100 companies in the water, on land and under tents.



The SL Graphite Spinning Reel combines the lightweight strength of graphite with many features usually found on more expensive reels. And the SL is the first graphite reel priced to please any angler. ■ Visit your Ryobi dealer and see why the SL Graphite Spinning Reel is pleasing fishermen everywhere. Available in five models.

RYOBI

There's never been a better reason to go fishin'.

Large and small inboard and outboard sport and fishing boats, houseboats, motor and sailing yachts, offshore power boats, inflatables and large and small sailboats and daysailers will be on display. Plans are under way for scheduling special events, demonstrations and out of the ordinary exhibits for the public's enjoyment.

YOUNG BOATMAN COURSE OFFERED BY FLOTILLA 12-5

Flotilla 12-5, USCG Auxiliary, College Point Unit, is offering its Summer 1985 Young Boatman Course for boys and girls ages 10 to 16. The course will be comprised of four sessions including a review and exam at the last session. A certificate allowing the young boatman to operate a motor vessel will be issued to those passing the course.

The course will start on Sunday, July 14th, 9 to 11 AM, and each Sunday thereafter. It will be held at Flotilla 12-5's headquarters in the Mayers Boatyard Marina, 20-08 119th Street, College Point, NY. The Marina is at the foot of 20th Avenue. Registration will be held at the first session.

Flotilla 12-5 has been offering both adult and childrens boating and safety courses for the past 28 years, and has U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary instructors who are highly qualified. The sessions will have both lecture periods and visual aid back-ups to make the subject interesting and to hold the youngsters attention.

The course will cover boating safety, boat handling, rules of the road, navigation and emergency measures.

For further information contact the Public Education Officer Ron Werner, 718-347-2727, days 9 to 5.

GOOD FISHING CLOSE TO NEW YORK CITY AND THE GOOD FISHING IN NEW YORK SERIES

Northeast Sportsman's Press announces the publication of *Good Fishing Close to New York City:* A Guide to the Great Close-to-Home Angling of the Metropolitan Region. The publisher describes it as the first in a series of five comprehensive guidebooks on fishing in the Empire State.

The author is Jim Capossela, a 10 year professional writer who has scribed four outdoor books and has contributed to Field & Stream, Outdoor Life, Sports Afield and many other magazines.

This book covers Westchester, Putnam, Rockland and Orange Counties; the Hudson River; Western Long Island Sound, Long Island and around the five boroughs. Through its 244 pages, it makes it evident that despite the great population (some 11 million people live here) there is some really exceptional fishing, both fresh and salt water. The fresh water coverage is very detailed. It includes the most complete treatise in print of the bountiful New York City reservoirs and streams. There are also special chapters for families (park fishing) and kids (pond fishing), plus two chapters on the surprising fresh water angling on Long Island. The book surveys all local salt waters, and here the emphasis is on shore access. Five detailed maps pinpoint nearly 150 locations. Covered are the Sound, Long Island's north and south shores, Staten Island-Brooklyn and the Bight, and Montauk Point. The reference section includes a complete freshwater fish stocking report, sources of maps, a summary of the area's main saltwater ports and a very detailed statistic chart of the Croton Watershed reservoirs.

Good Fishing Close to New York City features a color cover and inside there are more than 100 black and white photos, charts, rigs, timetables and interesting little side bars. Included are several lake and reservoir contour maps. The book is available in many local bookstores and tackle shops or direct from the publisher: Northeast Sportsman's Press, Box 188, Tarrytown, NY 10591 ($15.95 cloth, $9.95 softcover. Add $1 postage.)

LARGE COLLECTION OF FISHING AND HUNTING VIDEO CASSETTES AVAILABLE THROUGH RENTAL-BY-MAIL

Video Travel, Inc., offers the largest collection of fishing, hunting, and outdoor video cassettes available on a rent-by-mail basis.

The nation's video rental stores offer a large selection of well known Hollywood movies. But, very few video stores offer titles on fly fishing, deer hunting, turkey hunting, bass fishing, Great Lakes salmon and trout, trolling, duck and goose hunting, retriever training, saltwater fishing, golf, tennis, skiing, cycling, travel and more. And you really can't blame the store owners—a title like "How to Hunt Wild Turkey" just doesn't turn over as fast as "Star Wars."

For over two years Video Travel has been filling a need for quality "outdoor" viedos by offering sportsmen in all 50 states and Canada rentals by mail as an alternative to standard video store fare. Two-way shipping containers and return labels make the system easy to use. Not a club, there is no membership fee or obligation to buy or rent more tapes than desired.

The collection is currently at over 130 video titles. Every new "outdoor" title of suitable quality is automatically added to the collection. At the rate producers are creating new programs the collection could easily double this year. The most popular programs are produced specifically for the video tape medium with tightly edited instruction by well-known experts, and convey a large amount of information in a relatively short period of time. The video medium actually promotes learning through instant replay and stop action. For instance, the repeat viewing of a tape on "fly casting" after

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Hampton Bays, N.Y. 11946
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Mt. Sinai, N.Y. 11766
(516) 928-2220

VILLAGE MARINE
1405 Bay Avenue,
Mattituck, N.Y. 11952
(516) 298-5800

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Island Park, N.Y. 11558
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(516) 766-3332

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Part of what makes boating enjoyable is the unexpected.

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That's when it's good to have a Mariner outboard behind you. Mariners are rugged. Reliable. And more predictable than the weather.

Mariner Outboards from 4 to 200 horsepower have CD ignition for quick starting. And to make sure they keep running, we build them with rugged lower units and internal components that undergo the industry's toughest testing. So you can concentrate on enjoying yourself, instead of wondering whether you'll make it home.

A Mariner will also squeeze the most out of every drop of fuel. And with our exclusive MMAC financing option, a Mariner-powered rig is easier to own than ever before.

See your dealer for a catalog showing our complete line, or write Mariner, 1939 Pioneer Road, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin 54935.

And find out why Mariner is one of the things about boating you can always count on.

MARINER® OUTBOARDS
BETTER IN THE LONG RUN.

oceanic

The Oceanic 21 open-fisherman is made to please the most discriminating boater.

Specifications:
Centerline ____ 20'9"
Beam ____ 8'
Draft (hull only) ____ 15"
Transom height ____ 25"
Wt. - approx. 2000 lbs.
Fuel tank cap. ____ 60 gals
Maximum H.P. ____ 235

- Excellent performance
- All hand-laid materials
- No chop
- Two-year warranty
- Recessed teak rod racks
- Teleflex Big T steering
- Bait well
- *Much more!*

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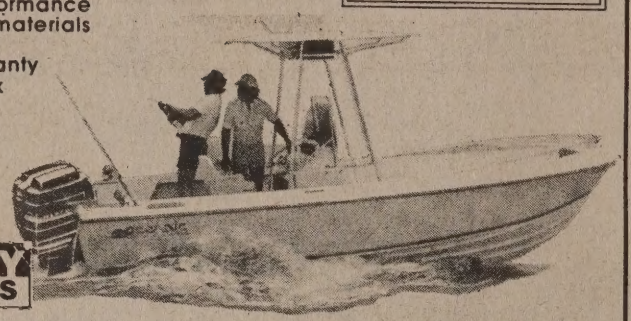

• Complete with 175 Mercury with oil injection, full instrumentation and Coast Guard package $14,850.

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each trip to the stream can reinforce skills much faster than simply reading about it.

The video collection makes it possible to receive on-demand advice from top fishing names like Gary Borger, Mel Krieger, Hal Janssen, Rick Clunn, Homer Circle, Glen Lau, Jerry Chiappetta, Babe Winkelman, Jay Warburton, Roger Moore, Tom Rosenbauer, Tony Skilton, Bruce Bowlen, John Tibbs, Ted Gerken and Gadabout Gaddis. Hunting experts include J. Wayne Fears on wild turkey hunting, John Wooters on hunting whitetail deer, Chuck Adams on archery hunting tactics for deer, Robert Brister, Jim Fernandez and Cam Sigler on duck hunting, John Satterwhite on shotgun fundamentals, and Dwight Nyquist on archery.

Rental is $9.98 per tape for a full 30 days (.33 per day). Many customers get together with fishing and hunting friends and share the cost of rental, and many decide to build a library by purchasing the cassettes, priced from $39.95 to $79.95, so they can view them season after season.

For more information, contact: Larry Seaman, Video Travel, Inc., 153 West Fourth St., Williamsport, PA 17701; (717) 326-6525.

BERMUDA INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT TO LURE OFFSHORE VISITORS

Anglers are ready to tackle another exciting season of sport fishing as the island begins the annual Bermuda International Light Tackle Tournament. The competition features excellent saltwater game fishing from May to November with prizes for the best catches in 17 species of sport fish.

"We're looking forward to another season of record-sized catches," said Captain Allen DeSilva of the Bermuda Charter Fishing Boat Association. "Anyone who has been to Bermuda knows we have some of the finest saltwater fishing in the world. This tournament offers everyone a chance for some fun and recognition."

Like other light tackle competitions, the Bermuda International Light Tackle Tournament awards prizes for the biggest fish caught on a particular pound test of fishing line. Entrants can win in one of five line class categories: 8, 12, 20, 30 pound and heavy tackle.

Fishermen choose from three basic types of angling during the six-month tournament: shore, reef or offshore fishing. Species such as bonefish and gray snapper are commonly caught from shore. Yellowtail snappers and little tunny are taken out near the reefs. And offshore fishermen do battle out at sea with "glamour" species such as blue marlin, white marlin and blackfin tuna.

The scene of the tournament is one of natural splendor. Bermuda, located 600 miles off the North Carolina coast in the inviting waters of the Gulf Stream, offers more than 200 square miles of reefs, teeming with multi-

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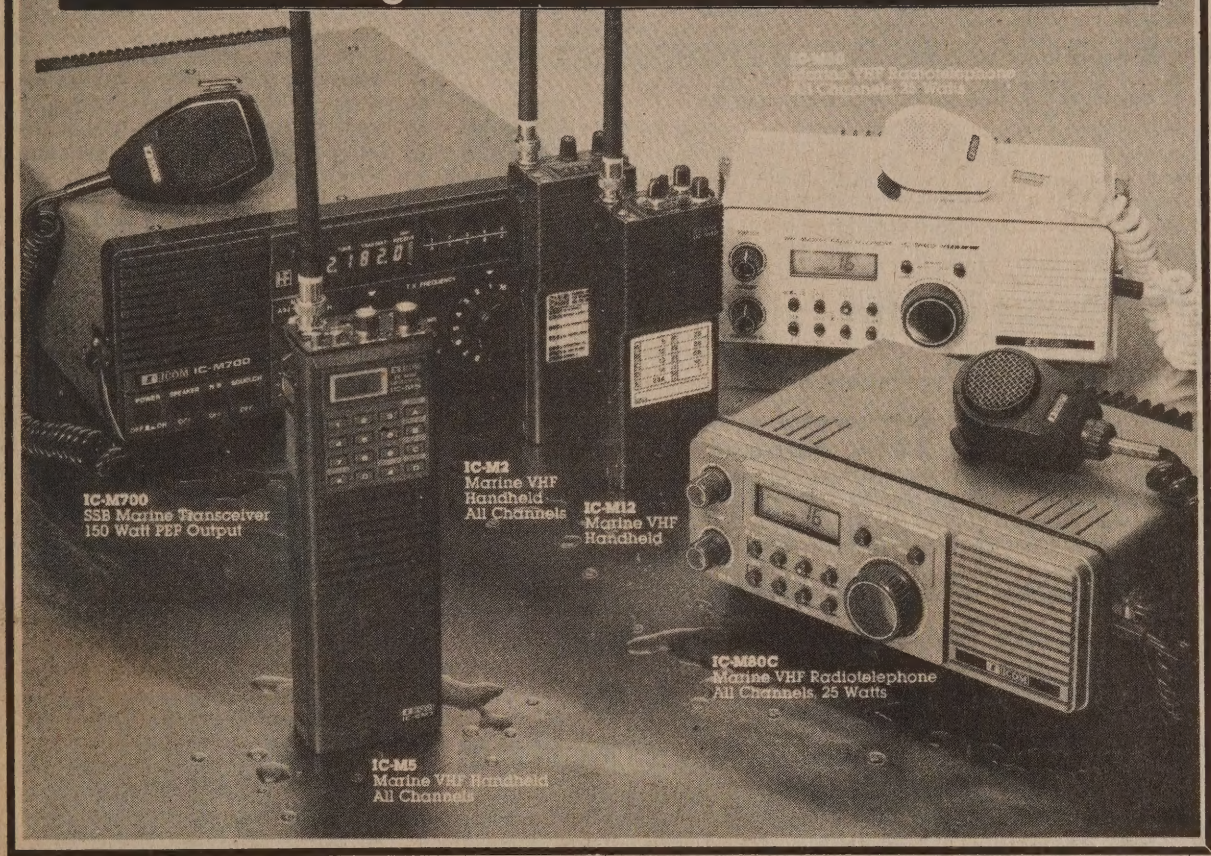

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M-2 3½ Watt Handheld	$250.
M-5 5½ Watt Handheld	$320.
M-80 All Channel Radiotelephone	$499.
M-80C Commercial Radiotelephone	$529.
M-700 SSB Radio	$1,695.

ACCESSORIES

Waterproof Bag	$25.
Cigarette Lighter Plug	$12.
Leather Carrying Case for M-5	$45.
Sturdy Plastic Carrying Case	$40.

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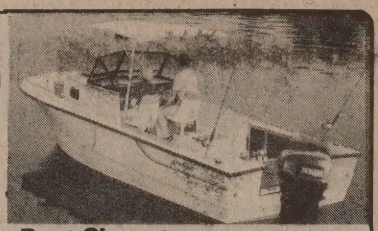

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12' to 14' 600 lb. cap. (economy)	$285.
15' to 16' 1,200 lb. cap (economy)	$424.
12' to 14' 500 lb. cap.	$358.
12' to 14' 800 lb. cap.	$372.
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15' to 16' 1,200 lb. cap.	$622.
16' to 17' 1,500 lb. cap.	$684.
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16' to 17' 1,600 lb. cap. (deluxe)	$780.
17' to 19' 2,000 lb. cap.	$792.
18' to 19' 2,300 lb. cap.	$886.
19' to 20' 2,500 lb. cap.	$999.
20' to 21' 2,900 lb. cap.	$1,246.
20' to 22' 3,600 lb. cap.	$1,630.
20' to 23' 4,000 lb. cap. (with brakes)	$2,145.

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colored marine life. As the summer months approach, the water slowly warms up, and many species of fish become more active.

"Fishing is good almost all year in Bermuda, but it is especially good from May to November when we hold our tournament," says DeSilva. "Not everyone comes home with a trophy, but no one goes away empty-handed."

For more information, individual anglers and fishing clubs can contact the Bermuda Tourism Office, 630 Fifth Avenue, Suite 646, New York, NY 10020; (212) 397-7700, or The Bermuda Charter Fishing Boat Association, Rego's Port, Spanish Point, Pembroke, Bermuda 5-53, telephone: 80929/2-6246.

EASY TO USE FLY CATALOG FROM WORLD CRAFTSMEN

Ready for the 1986 tackle year, World Craftsmen, Chicago, has introduced a new catalog listing their thousands of custom crafted fishing flies, bass bugs, nymphs, steamers, trolling flies and specialty items. Catalog has a simple way of listing the offerings to indicate hook sizes in stock for each fly, colors, etc. It makes the job easier for the buyer. Order forms are also included.

For more information, contact World Craftsmen, 222 W. Adams St., Suite 725, Chicago, IL 60606.

3M RELEASING FIVE MORE FISHING CASSETTES

Five new, 60-minute "how to" videocassettes on a variety of fishing subjects have been released by Scientific Anglers/3M. These exciting new products bring to 25 the number of fishing, hunting and retrieve training tapes in SA/3M's popular "Sportsman's Video Collection" series of instructional cassetes. New entries are:

Bluefish on Light Tackle, in which celebrated anglers Spider Andresen and Rip Cunningham share their proven methods of finding and catching bluefish. Publishers of "Saltwater Sportsman" magazine, Andresen and Cunningham have spent years studying the species and perfecting techniques which produce consistent catches with spinning, baitcasting and fly gear. The production was filmed by Andy Rowe and Bruce Buckley, former cameramen for "The American Sportsman" and "Outdoor Life" television programs.

Walleye Fishing Basics, utilizes four walleye authorities to communicate a better understanding of this fish and its behavior patterns. The quartet covers such things as walleye water hotspots and how to locate them; lures that work best; the importance of trolling speeds; how to fish lakes, rivers and structures; and how to match the angler's approach to the habits of the fish.

Introduction to Structure Fishing for Bass. Host Charlie Farmer, noted outdoor writer, is convinced that structure is the real secret to catching more and bigger bass. In this produc-

tion, the camera goes underwater to examine various types of structures such as submerged timbers, old road beds, bridges and dropoffs. Use of flashers and chart recorders as reliable bass finding tools, how seasonal variations affect structures sought by bass, and lures and techniques which attract this piscatorial battler also are reviewed.

Anatomy of a Trout Stream. Some fly fishermen consistently catch more and larger trout because they know where the trout are. Biologist and fly fishing author Rick Hafele explains riffles, runs, pools and flats, how to recognize them and why they're preferred grounds for trout. The production also includes pointers on matching tackle to prevailing conditions, fish feeding levels, important trout foods in each type of water and proper presentation of flies.

Fly Fishing The English Way, filmed on celebrated waters such as the River Nidd, Driffield Beck, Avington and the River Test, offers insight into the British fly fisherman and how his creel filling techniques are as applicable in Vermont or Montana as in the United Kingdom. The stream, casting techniques, the hatch, the dry fly, wet fly, wet fly tandem, the weighted nymph and fishing still water all get their share of attention in this benchmark video production.

These and other videocassettes in 3M's popular "Sportsman's Video Collection" are available for purchase or rent at many tackle and sporting goods stores and video outlets nationwide. They are also available directly from Scientific Anglers/3M.

Available in both Beta and VHS formats, suggested retail prices are: Introduction to Structure Fishing for Bass, $39.95; Walleye Fishing Basics, Bluefish on Light Tackle and Fly Fishing the English Way, each $59.95; and Anatomy of a Trout Stream, $79.95.

For more information or to order tapes, contact: Scientific Anglers/3M, Dept. LT85-4, P.O. Box 33600, 3M Center, St. Paul, MN 55133-3600.

SHORE GUIDE FROM AMERICAN LITTORAL SOCIETY

The American Littoral Society has published a guide booklet to wetlands and wetlands preservation, the first of a "Shore Guide Series" of brief reports on subjects of coastal interest.

The booklet, entitled "Wetlands," covers basic biological processes in both salt and fresh water wetlands, outlines the current laws which govern wetland modification and gives readers suggestions for monitoring wetlands in their communities.

It is published at a time when many states are proposing newer and stronger wetlands laws and the federal program to protect wetlands, administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under section 404 of the Clean Water Act, has been under attack as too weak to serve its purposes.

Single copies of "Wetlands" are available free of charge from the American Littoral Society, Highlands, NJ 07732. For 10 or more, the Society

CORTLAND LINE SHOWS COMPLETE LINE IN NEW CATALOG

Cortland Line's all-new 1985 Pro Shop Brochure is now available to fishermen. The 36-page, four-color catalog features an extensive lineup of Cortland Line's fishing tackle and line.

Complete information is provided on all of Cortland's high quality fishing lines—from the premium monofilament PLION through the largest selection of braided fishing lines and quality fly lines available.

In addition, the catalog offers specifications on an assortment of companion products such as rods, reels, landing nets and the accessories so necessary to a successful fishing trip.

Useful information on when and where to use sink-tip lines, how to care for your fly line, and knot tying tips have been included as reminders every fisherman will appreciate.

For a copy of Cortland Line's new 1985 Pro Shop Brochure, send $.25 to: Cortland Line Company, P.O. Box 5588, Kellogg Road, Cortland, NY 13045.

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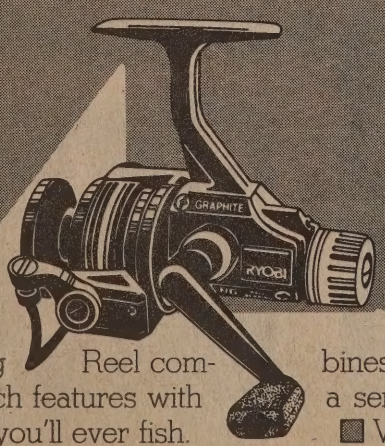

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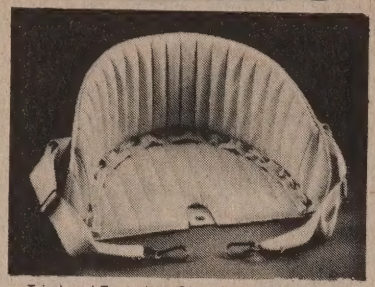

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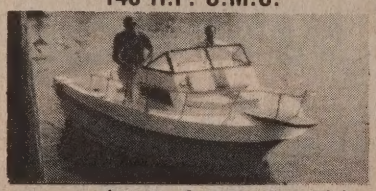

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★ PRODUCT REVIEW ★

SI-TEX T-100 RADAR

by Pete Barrett

Any boater who has inched his way back to the inlet in a fog can appreciate radar. For many of us though, radar was a heavy, bulky and very expensive piece of electronics that was better suited to much larger boats.

Happily there is a trend toward miniaturizing radar and several manufacturers now offer smaller, lighter and reasonably priced units that are well within the pocketbook and installation capabilities of nearly any boat.

The Si-Tex T-100 is one of this new breed. It is a raster scan type radar which uses a TV screen to display the image rather than a circular tube display. The two main advantages of the raster style radar is the small size of the display unit and the permanency of the image. With "old-fashioned" radars as the scanner moved in an arc, the image it received would light up for a few seconds, then fade away. The raster display images stay in clear view until the next sweep of the scanner, the new image constantly replacing the old image.

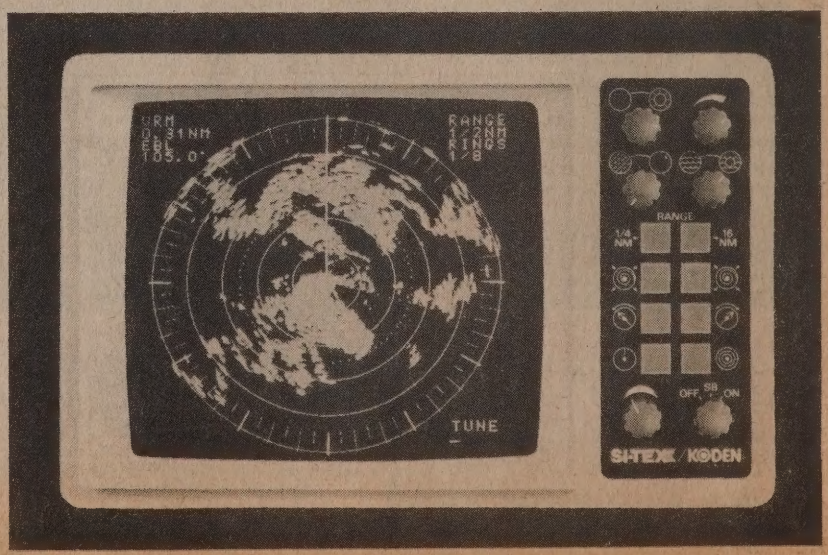
I've been using a T-100 for several months and have been pleased with its performance and the added safety it gives me while navigating at night and in rain or fog. Tight space restrictions required that I mount it right next to the compass, yet when checked by a professional compass adjuster, there was no variation in the compass and no adverse effects on the radar's display.

There are two parts to the T-100: an antenna with the megatron which transmits the signals and the display receiver with the image screen and operating controls.

The display screen is 9 inches measured diagonally. To the right of it is the control panel with knobs and key pads to tune and operate the unit.

The megatron requires a pre-heat time, so to first turn on the T-100, place the switch to the "ON" position. Turn the 'ON" knob to the "SB" standby position. After the 150 second warm up time is complete the radar screen will display the circular pattern with range marks. Turn the knob to the "ON' position and the radar will transmit signals and display the images it sees on the screen. Use the *Brilliance* control knob to make the screen as bright as you need.

Several ranges can be displayed: 1/4, 1/2, 1, 2, 4, 8 and 16 miles. Press the right hand range key to increase the selected ranges, the left key to decrease them. For navigating ariver or bay at night or in fog, use the 1/4 mile range. It will pick up buoys and markers with ease. I've found the 1/2 mile range easy to read when approaching an inlet in bad fog and can



pick out other vessels in time to maneuver and also the range buoy and inlet jetties. For most offshore use, say while running at night to distant fishing grounds, the 1 or 2 mile ranges seemed best.

I was able to read the longer ranges, but small boats, buoys and even sea clutter from rough water seems to blend together. The 16 mile range is probably best used by larger, more stable fishing boats or in very calm water. I found myself using the 1/4, 1/2, 1 and 2 mile ranges 99 percent of the time.

The "TUNE" control knob should be turned so the maximum number of tune bars are displayed at the bottom right of the screen. Depending on the range selected, 2 to 5 bars may be displayed.

The "GAIN" control should be tuned each time the range is changed. It increases or decreases the "volume" of the transmitted pulses. Too much will cause unwanted reflection and a muddy looking display; not enough gain will make the readings faint.

Rough water and heavy rain can cause interference with the transmitter and make it difficult to isolate ships and buoys from white water. The *Sea Anti-Clutter* and the *Rain Anti-Clutter* knobs allow finer tuning to eliminate this excess interference.

Distances to land masses or other vessels can be determined by using the VRM (variable range marker) control pads. The right hand pad causes the range marker ring to move outward from the center; the left pad moves the range marker ring towards the center. When the range marker ring is centered on the object, the distance will be displayed at the top left hand corner of the screen.

The bearing to that object can be determined by pressing the EBL (electronic bearing line) key pads. The right hand key moves the bearing line in a clockwise direction; the left pad in a counterclockwise direction. When the bearing line is centered on the object, the bearing will be shown in the top left of the screen immediately below the VRM reading.

The T-100 is a pleasure to use. Its small size will fit conveniently on many small boats with very little modification. The transmitter with its Megatron must be mounted on a hard top or radar arch like those designed by Pipe Welders and Sea Bright Stainless to keep it up and out of the way.

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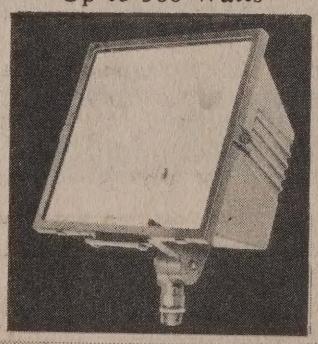

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THE TACKLE DOCTOR

by Russ Wilson

Dear Doc,

I've enclosed a photo copy of a Centaure Pacific Reel parts blow-up. My problem is, the manual pick up arm snapped off and went to the deep six. Can you help me locate a replacement or recommend someone who deals in old reels? *Jerry Reilly*

Dear Jerry,

That old Centuare was one fine reel. For a good number of years we, too, used it for jetty fishing and when casting from the surf with bait or lures. I have seen not seen a Centaure in a local tackle shop in years and calls to several friends who specialize in old reel parts failed to come up with anyone who could supply you with a bail arm replacement. Maybe one of our readers has an answer. If so, please contact The Fisherman.

Unfortunately, today's fast paced fishing tackle industry has many fatalities, some of them producers of excellent equipment. The import industry, more and often better products from the foreign firms and advanced marketing techniques here in the U.S. have caused many old line companies to close shop even though their products were equally good.

* * *

Dear Doc,

I primarily fish freshwater and have question to ask. Recently I've been losing a lot of fish after feeling my bait fish pulling through the jaws of my prize catch. (That is the only way I can describe the feeling I get when the hook comes out.)

I am wondering if my hook was too small. Is there a rule of thumb in matching a baitfish with a specific size hook; i.e., 1½ inch minnow No. 6 hook; 3 inch minnow No. 4 hook or larger minnows a No. 2 hook?

Incidentally, trout do not like a No. 2 hook in a minnow. What's the answer? *Lenny Szarek.*

Dear Lenny,

We've never followed a set procedure when matching hook size to the baitfish. As a general rule we carry a selection of Aberdeen style hooks (these are thin wire with a full round bend and a rather short barb) ranging from No. 1 down to a No. 10 which is used when fishing crappies or yellow perch with tiny 1½ inch or smaller minnows.

You might try the Aberdeen style and use this as a guideline when matching hook size to the baits: a small minnow, say 1 to 2 inches can swim in a natural position with a size 8 hook through its lips or embedded in its back. A larger minnow might require a No. 4 or even a No. 2 if it is over 3 inches in length.

Of equal importance, is the species of fish you seek. As you've noted, trout are exceptionally wary and will spurn a bait that is harpooned onto a big bulky hook. Bass, although equally cautious at times, will readily grab a three inch shiner that is lugging a huge No. 1 hook in its back or through the lips.

Perch and crappies, America's

Most giant tuna anglers prefer dacron for their fishing, but mono has its moments.

favorite panfish, will grab and swallow a tiny minnow even if the hook sticks out like a dandelion flower on a green lawn. These fish are not normally too finicky, so you don't need to finesse them as you would when seeking trout or bass from heavily fished waters.

Experimentation is the key. Try different hook styles, sizes and colors. Quite often a black or bronzed hook will catch fish that will overlook a bait that's attached to a gold or silver hook even though the hook is small and not really all that noticeable to the human eye.

* * *

Dear Doc,

Tuna season is here again, and the questions concernng "the best type of line and the strongest knots" are plaguing the fishing community. Would you please expand upon the various uses of "black dac," mono, standard dacron, or any combination for their use in giant tuna fishing.

Since there are so many variations of knots (each with a specific application to either dacron or mono), would you please discuss and diagram the most common ones. A brief explanation of their strengths and weaknesses would be appreciated. Thank you. *Frank Bonacci.*

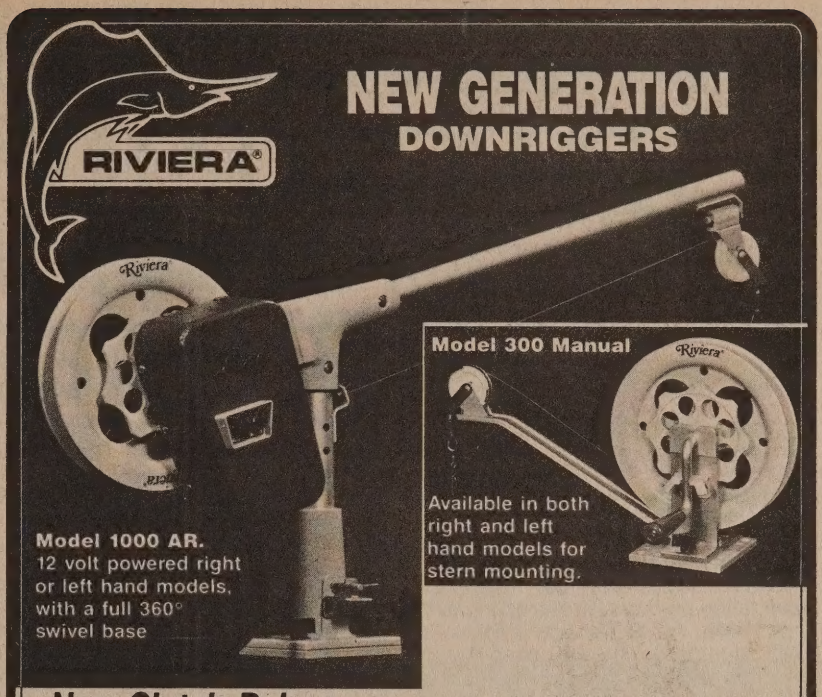
Dear Frank,

Most tuna fishermen prefer dacron. Some use the "black dac," but most go with the standard "fleck finishes." A few do use monofilament (for giants 130 on up to 200 lb. test) since it is a more forgiving line due to its built-in stretch. Dacron does not have stretch and requires more control on the part of the angler. With no stretch, line breaks or fraying due to abrasion are more common so it is considered the line of the "experts."

All tuna fishermen use a double line although its length may vary from one skipper to another. It is a virtual must when working large fish at boat side. The double line is formed via a Bimini knot which gives 100 percent strength when correctly tied. There are many books with diagrams showing how this knot is tied (also known as the 20 twist knot). The snap, usually a ball bearing model, is attached to the Bimini with an Offshore Knot (also diagrammed in many knot tying books such as Mark Sosin's and Lefty Kreh's "Practical Knots"). This, too, is a very strong knot without loss of line strength.

The Bimini and Offshore knots are used with dacron or mono and are equally effective when used with either material.

As to color, we tend to go with the black dacron, but also carry at least one outfit rigged with green fleck dacron and another that carries a full spool of 130 lb. clear mono. In ultra clear water the clear mono may be the better choice, so it is wise to have at least one outfit rigged with the clear even if it does not see use on a regular basis.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HYBRID STRIPED BASS REPORT

by Tom Schlichter

Freshwater fans should soon begin reaping the benefits of Fort Pond's 1982 hybrid stocking.

For any local anglers looking to diversify their fishing experiences without traveling more than an hour or two to reach new destinations, a trip to Montauk's Fort Pond to try for hybrid striped bass may be in order. Stocked in 1982 and '83, these fish have taken hold and are growing at a rapid pace. All of the fish stocked in 1982 should now be well over the 14 inch length requirement and those fish stocked in the second year of the program are likely to reach that length by mid-August this year.

This hybrid species is a cross between a female striped bass and a male white bass. Since there is no natural spawning between these species, the parents are injected with hormones to induce the spawning process and the eggs are then fertilized manually. It is a beautifully designed fish, sporting a high resemblance to the striper but possessing a stouter body, much like a white perch. Its silver sides are pinstriped; however, these stripes are broken at irregular intervals.

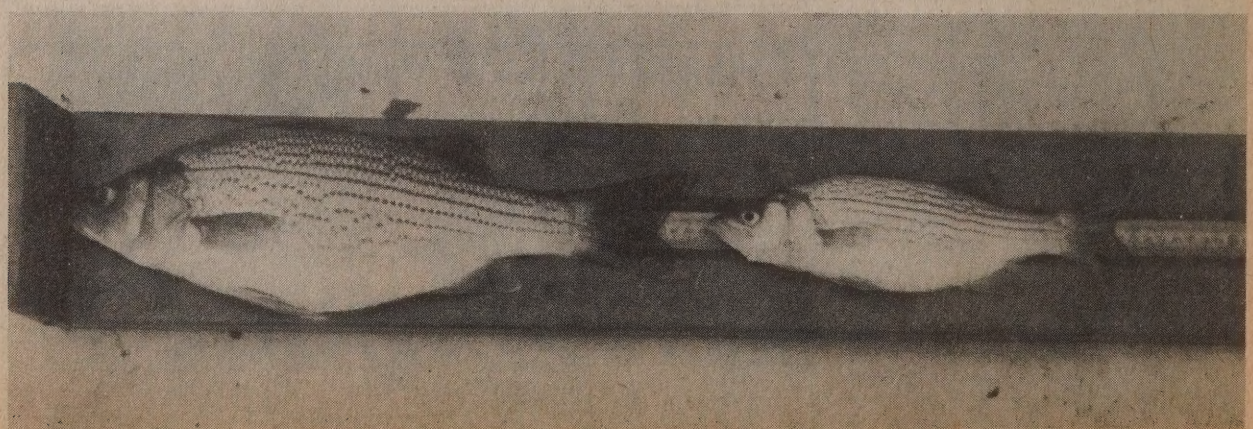
Imported from Virginia, the fry are about 1½ inches when they are received by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. The reason for their stocking, according to Charlie Guthrie of the DEC, is to both diversify the fishing opportunities available to Long Island freshwater enthusiasts, and control the stunted white perch population in Fort Pond. So far, it seems that the second goal has been easier accomplished than the first as not too many fishermen have made an effort to catch a creel full of these beauties.

The growth rate of the hybrid striped bass, when compared to other fish in our region, is phenomenal. Trappings by the DEC made this May indicate that the average fish stocked in 1982 was about 16½ inches long. Those fish stocked in 1983 are already 11.9 inches in length! By comparison, a two year old largemouth bass residing in a Long Island lake can be expected to be in the 6 to 8 inch range. If all goes well, these hybrids can be expected to live from 7 to 10 years, so you can see the potential for some real trophy sized fish is a clear possibility. In fact, the world record hybrid bass, taken from a South Carolina lake where they have been stocked for several years now, weighed just over 20 pounds. Ten pound fish in the southern states are a regular occurrence. It's interesting to note, however, that in the deep southern states, such as Florida, the fish can only survive for about three years, yet 10 pounders are a common sight! The reason for the short survival seems to be a cross between some sort of growth burnout and the fact that the larger fish have some trouble tolerating extremely warm water. Those fish planted in New York waters should not experience any burnout problems.

Hybrid stripers are, for the most part, open water fish and bass fishermen used to working heavy cover will have to adjust their styles somewhat if they want to connect. Not many anglers have been successful at catching them so far, although a few local anglers who spend a good deal of time on the lake have started to get the hang of things. Try working deeper water than you might usually consider, and certainly, avoid any heavy weed growth. Your normal bass tackle, with lines testing 6 to 10 lbs., will do for now but that should change as the fish begin to mature and grow larger over the next few years.

Killies have proved to be a productive bait and can be hooked on a #2 Eagle Claw hook and fished without a float just as for largemouths. Although I have not met anyone who has tried it yet I strongly suspect a small white perch dangling from the end of a line might also prove successful. Rapalas, Rebels, small jigs and most other well known minnow imitations should also do the job. A few anglers have done well with white streamers and the long wand.

So far, the location of Fort Pond has proved to be the biggest hindrance for fishermen willing to give this lake a try. It's not so much the drive east that bothers most anglers as it is the possibility of being "blown off the lake." Fort Pond is a large body of water and it is quite open, because of this, high winds can put some large waves on the surface and prevent you from fishing any open water. To be successful at this game, you will have to place your faith in the weatherman



A pair of Fort Pond hybrids taken during a recent survey of the lake by DEC officials.

and try to get out when the winds are down.

Some fishermen I've spoken with have expressed concern that the newly stocked hybrids might have an adverse effect on the bigmouth population in Fort Pond. Not so, say the fellas at the DEC. Actually, should the hybrids continue to take well to this lake, they may help the bass by keeping the white perch population in balance. Already, they have begun to do the job. In fact, one of the 16 inch fish taken in this year's study spit up a 6½ inch perch. This size baitfish, which is too large for most largemouths to handle, is the most numerous in the lake and it is hoped that the larger hybrids will concentrate on thinning out this segment of the white perch population. Since the two species do not inhabit the same ecological niche, there is little chance that the largemouths will be adversely effected, and, in the case that the hybrids did prove to be undesirable, the stockings would cease and the hybrids would die off in a few years as they are sterile and incapable of reproducing on their own.

Presently, the DEC has no plans to stock any other hybrid species in New York waters aside from tiger muskies and hybrid striped bass. But these programs may be expanded if they prove successful. The next stocking of hybrid bass will be this June and will consist of 5000 fry 1½ inches in length. Aside from Fort Pond, Whitney Point Reservoir near Cortland, and Saving Bridge Reservoir in the Catskills, also receive hybrid stockings. Fort Pond, however, was the first lake in the state to be stocked and thus serves as the main source of information regarding growth rates act.

Hopefully, as the 1982 year class of Fort Pond hybrids, which seems much better established than the 1983 stocking, reaches the 14 inch mark, interest in the species will increase. If you're sitting at home right now debating the merits of taking a ride out to the lake to fish for a species which has proved elusive to most anglers so far, consider this: even if you do not have any luck catching the hybrids, Fort Pond is no slouch of a bass lake. It has sizable populations of both small and largemouth bass. When you have trouble taking one species, try another. Earlier this year, the Long Island Bassmasters held a tournament to try and catch some of the hybrids and help the DEC evaluate their program. Unfortunately, high winds prevented anyone from fishing open water and no hybrid bass were taken. Most anglers instead turned their attention to fishing the shorelines. Before the day was over, several largemouth and smallmouth bass up to 3½ lbs. were weighed in. This just shows that there are always other possibilities when the wind picks up, and a trip east does not have to be wasted, even if ideal conditions do not prevail.

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ATLANTIC WRECK SERIES:

THE COIMBRA

by John Raguso

When Kapitaenleutnant Hardegen, skipper of U-Boat #U-123, returned to German submarine headquarters in February of 1942, he told Admiral Doenitz how it had been in American waters. He urged that every possible boat be sent across the Atlantic to take part in the easy pickings.

Doenitz was familiar with Captain Hardegen's story, because it was similar to the reports he'd received from other returning U-Boat commanders, but it was good to have it reinforced in person. Operation "Paukenschlag," a sea offensive conducted by a wolfpack centered off the approaches to New York Harbor, was going even better than expected. According to our babysitter Doris, whose blond hair, blue eyes and Germanic heritage gives her a certain expertise in foreign linguistics, Paukenschlag means "to strike a big bass drum." Since the meaning of certain expressions is sometimes lost in the translation, the application here appears that the German Navy offensive was meant to strike fear into the hearts of Allied shipping, and that they did that quite successfully in the winter of 1942.

Commander Hardegen's U-123 had sunk the Norness on January 14, 1942, south of Montauk Point. He moved westward along the Long Island coast, going tight to the shoreline since 20 fathoms was less than 10 miles from the beach. What gave the crew of U-123 even more confidence was the total absence of any shore defenses.

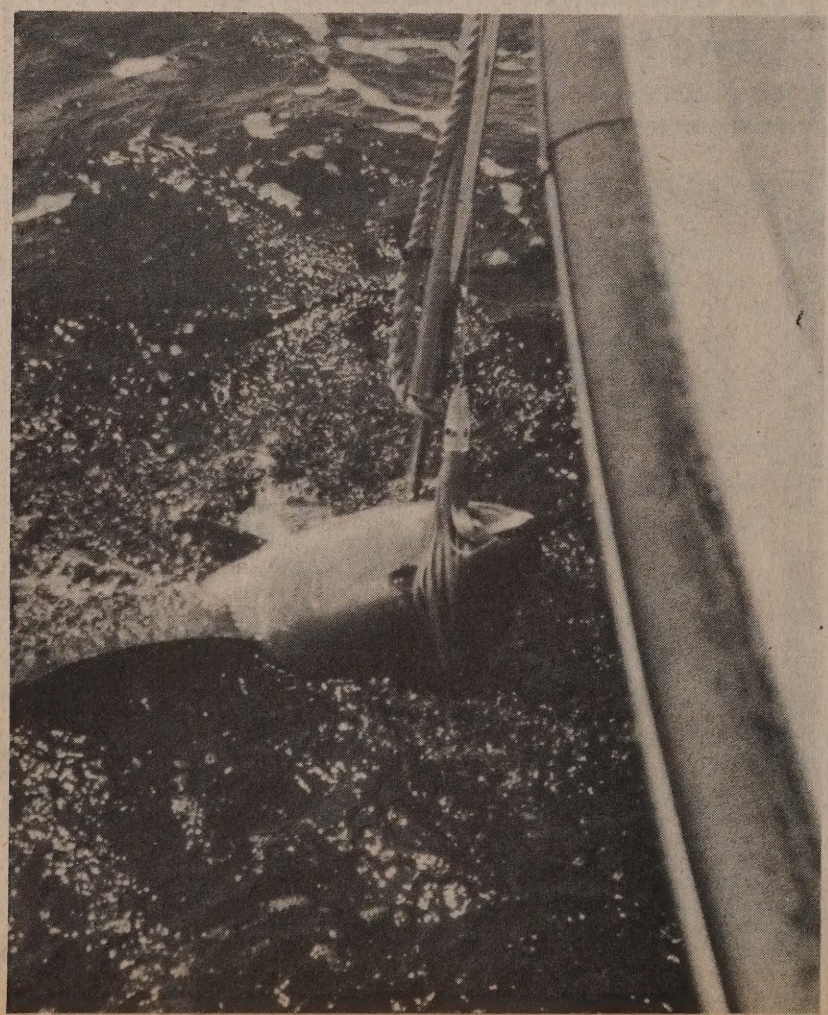
Only 24 hours after the Norness was sent to the bottom in 240 feet of water, The U-Boat spotted an Allied tanker traveling westward to New York Harbor, roughly 20 miles south of Shinnecock Inlet. The target was sitting low in the water, a sure sign that her belly tanks were loaded with fuel oil destined to be used in the war effort against the Fatherland. The Coimbra didn't have a chance against her unannounced attacker, as she broke up into three sections due to a well placed torpedo igniting a part of her cargo, with the resulting internal explosions doing the major damage to the British tanker's hull structure. The raging fire fueled by the leaking oil killed 34 of the Coimbra's crew, with 10 survivors miraculously escaping the burning cauldron.

Hardegan and his U-Boat crew then left the Coimbra for dead, ablaze and adrift, and turned south during the last few days of January, steering for Cape Hatteras off the North Carolina coast. It was U-123 that also claimed many lives in sinking the Esso tanker Allan Jackson and the freighters Norvana and the City of Atlanta.

In his summary report to Admiral Doenitz, Hardegan related how he had been blessed with an abundance of targets off of Wimble Shoals. One night, he saw three ships moving around the light buoy at the northwest end of the shoals and five more, all lighted up like Christmas trees, coming at him in another line.

At that point, U-123 had only a few torpedoes left, so Hardegan surfaced his ship and commenced firing with his deck guns on the tanker Malay. He torpedoed the Latvian freighter Ciltvaria and also sent his last tin fish into the Malay as she attempted to run for the safety of Norfolk, blazing and badly damaged. After this last encounter, Hardegen turned victoriously toward Europe for the trip home claiming 100,000 tons of Allied shipping on his first sortie into American waters. He and his crew could hardly wait for a return bout.

The Coimbra was the young war's



This husky yellowfin grabbed a high speed lure trolled above the Coimbra.

second shipping casualty off the Eastern Seaboard, but she was the harbinger of the destruction that was to follow. As mentioned in previous weeks, operation "Paukenschlag" wreaked total havoc on Allied shipping in the winter and spring of 1942, accounting for the sinking of 467 ships while only losing 9 U-Boats in the process.

Oddly enough, the Coimbra was a German-built ship being only five years old at the time of her sinking. She was constructed by the Howaldtswerke Company of Kiel, Germany and owned by the Socony Vacuum Oil Company, Ltd. of Great Britain.

Back on the home front in New York, there was limited information concerning an "unknown number of survivors" from the foreign tanker Coimbra, which according to a U.S. Navy announcement, had been observed "in a sinking condition" off the eastern Long Island coast approximately 100 miles east of New York, early the morning of January 15, 1942.

The Navy Department in Washington disclosed no additional information to augment its brief announcement on January 16th that the disabled Coimbra had been seen, was presumably the victim of a submarine-launched torpedo, and that an unknown number of surviving crew members had been picked up.

Third Naval District headquarters in New York, which had been silent all day and night the day following the U-Boat attack on the Allied tanker, continued to offer a "no comment," even after Washington had confirmed the disaster. No indication was thus available as to where the survivors mentioned by the Navy had been landed, if they had been landed at all.

According to New York Times coverage of this event, there had been some reports that the Coimbra disaster, the second suspected submarine attack in Long Island coastal waters in a 24-hour period, had taken place near Southampton and that merchant marine operators had been warned that the Coimbra's drifting hulk still might be afloat and a menace to navigation. Some placed the location of the derelict south of Shinnecock Inlet, at least 20 miles offshore. Long Island Coast Guard stations, under strict orders from the Navy Department to give out no information, declined to discuss this possibility with the news media.

According to the Navy's brief statement concerning this event, the location of the sinking ship was placed at "approximately 100 miles east of New York," which was the same general area given for the confirmed submarine attack that sank the Panamanian tanker Norness early Wednesday morning, January 14, 1942.

A united Press dispatch from Washington following the incident said that the Navy "...was presumed to be taking steps to cope with the submarine menace in Atlantic Coastal waters." In announcing the Coimbra disaster, the Navy Department had described the submarine threat to East Coast shipping as "increasingly serious." The Navy then clarified the confused situation concerning this second sinking in the follow official announcement:

"A tanker named Coimbra, flying the flag of a foreign Ally, was observed in a sinking condition on the morning of January 15, 1942. Its position was approximately 100 miles east of New York Harbor. An unknown number of survivors have been picked up. The cause of the damage is unknown, but it is assumed to have been torpedoed by an enemy submarine."

From what meager details were made available by the Navy, it appears that the Coimbra was traveling towards New York Harbor with a full cargo of fuel oil, and was well out of sight of shore at the time she was torpedoed. Shipping experts expressed surprise at this fact, pointing out that Long Island waters off the east end are deep and that the Coimbra might have hugged the shore and thus escaped attack.

News of this second sinking following the demise of the Norness, first was revealed early the morning of January 15th when Long Island police officials, in contact with the Coast Guard, reported that a patrol plane had sighted the sinking ship and also had seen survivors floating in a dory and on a raft. It was also confirmed by a report that Southampton Hospital was told at 3PM the afternoon of the Coimbra's attack to prepare to receive survivors of a maritime disaster.

The Navy made no specific announcement concerning anti-submarine measures in response to the attacks on the Norness and Coimbra, but it was understood that the Navy, Coast Guard and Army, by sea and air, were continuing the relentless hunt for the underwater raider, or raiders, that had been in progress since the U-Boat menace in New York waters was first disclosed. Little did they know that it would get much worse before it got any better.

In an interesting twist, the rusting hulks of the tankers Norness and the Coimbra have become news-worthy once again. About ten years ago, stories in the New York Daily News and Long Island's Newsday related that there were still significant quantites of oil in the storage tanks of both ships. Oceanographer Henry Frey indicated that the Coimbra was leaking oil through its ventilation ports at a rate of about eight ounces per hour. He claimed that this oil was

(Continued on next page.)

THE COIMBRA
Vital Statistics

Date Sunk: January 15, 1942
Length: 423 feet
Beam: 60 feet
Depth: 33 feet
Weight: 6,768 gross tons, 3,976 net tons
Depth of Water: 183 feet
Depth Over Wreck: 120 to 140 feet
Cargo: 81,000 barrels of lubricating oil
Lat/Lon: 40-22-00N/72-24-30 W
Loran C: 26204.0/43576.0

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Shinnecock Inlet	27.0	183°	003°
Moriches Inlet	28.0	155°	335°
Fire Island Inlet	45.0	120°	300°
Jones Inlet	56.6	114°	294°
Debs Inlet	64.3	112°	292°
Rockaway Inlet	72.3	110°	290°
Sandy Hook	74.6	106°	286°
Shark River Inlet	75.4	093°	273°
Manasquan Inlet	77.8	089°	269°

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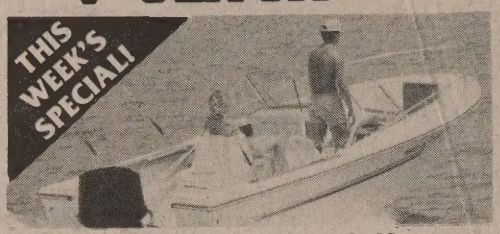

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seeping to the surface, perhaps accounting for the various oil slicks observed by East End fishermen and pilots in this vicinity on numerous occasions.

Although reports from a 1967 U.S. Department of Transportation study concluded that this oil leak from the Coimbra's hold presented no pollution threat to U.S. shores, Frey disagreed. He claimed that the Coast Guard divers did not inspect eight tanks on board that still held 28,500 barrels of oil. Frey's dives onto the wreck have showed him otherwise, and he warned that the metal storage tanks are suffering constant corrosion from saltwater and that significant amounts of oil could be released at any time, thereby posing a grave threat to Long Island and New England beaches.

This debate aside, a good deal of knowledge exists about the Coimbra's state and condition on the sea bed floor. Diver's reports indicate that the vessel is broken up into three sections, with the hull's metal in excellent condition with little deterioration. The stern is heeled over at an 80 degree angle, the mid-section is inclined at 75 degrees to port and partially buried, and the bow is standing upright in the sand.

From a fishing perspective, the Coimbra's general vicinity offers a variety of pelagic species in addition to monster codfish. Fellow Babylon Tuna Club member Chris Clark has made many stops to the Coimbra's shadows in search of outsized bacala. According to his records, this wreck is a consistent year-round producer of the winter king, offering action throughout the summer and fall as well. He has personally caught cod up to 38½ lbs. and has seen many others in excess of this figure come over the rails.

I've had a fair amount of luck fishing the Coimbra for pelagic tuna and have caught quite a few yellowfin and albacore in this area. A few weeks ago three makos in excess of 400 lbs. were caught in the 170 to 180 depths southeast of Moriches Inlet, not far from the British tanker's final resting place. Finally, a few charter skippers I know who ply Shinnecock Inlet's waters tell me that these coordinates also produce a steady amount of white marlin activity, so it seems that the Coimbra deserves at least one shot this summer if you hail out of Fire Island, Moriches or Shinnecock Inlets in search of big game fishing opportunities.

That's going to conclude the inshore wrecks we're going to cover in this initial series on Atlantic Coast wrecks. Starting with next week's installment and continuing for six additional weeks, we'll look at some of the shipwrecks that fringe the edge of the Continental Shelf near Hudson, Block and Tom's Canyons. Next week's wreck will take us back to the result of U-Boat action from the First World War: the wreck of the schooner Jacob M. Haskell.

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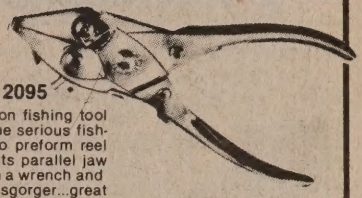

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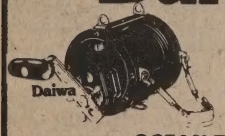

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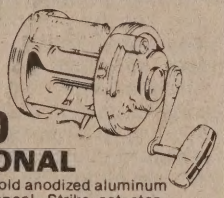

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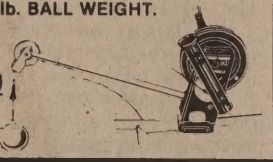

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YESTERYEAR PORGIES

by Matt Ahern

Our veteran sinker bouncer recalls those days when porgy catches were measured by the bushel.

Just how good was bottom fishing in the old days—say, 55 to 60 years ago when I was growing up in the fishing game? I'm sure many fishermen wonder about it from time to time. Was it as good as claimed (even better, perhaps)? Some fellows who write me agree without doubt that it was exactly the way many of my old-timer stories relate. They've been there, too, you see. And then there are readers who want to know just how much better it really was as compared to today.

But before we get deeper into this, let me say right now that we didn't slay the fish every time we went out. We had our poor days, too. Nor were these fish monsters. The cod we catch today—those big ones—are much larger than in my early fishing days. To latch onto a 40 pounder 'way back when was a feat to read about in every New York City newspaper's fishing column. Today, it is given minor mention—if at all.

And the same with fluke.

True, we did catch many large fluke, as I often mention from time to time. But few were over 12 pounds. I'm certain that today more 15 pounders and over are caught each summer than we old-timers ever caught or hoped to catch. Whether such large fluke were always available (they must have been) and we just didn't catch them because of the bergall-like quantity of smaller fish. I don't know. Personally, I believe these larger fluke are making an appearance simply because of today's sophisticated tackle and the use of mono line. Certainly one no longer sees converted pool cues in use for codfishing, or boat rods with the resiliency of a two by four used for smaller fish. And the reels: certainly these are refinement supreme. (Ah! The memories those old wooden side-winders invoke!) And because of today's technology, super-sensitive rods have become the downfall of fish who become big because they have been endowed with a mite more intelligence than their brethren.

Well, you say, if all this is so, how come when I go out there, I often have difficulty putting fish in my bucket? I use all that sophisticated tackle and such. How come, huh?

That's easy enough to answer—there are just fewer fish than when I was a kid. Those fish I caught never had the pressure put upon them as their siblings of today. And, too, the raping of our coastal waters for many years by that obnoxious foreign fishing fleet put a large dent in our fishing resources. (Keep that in mind, for there are whispers of lifting that ban in a few years. So act like the proverbial Boy Scout: be prepared! Those who think little of America's welfare are coming out of the woodwork again!) It has taken years to recover from that rape; some species may never fully do so. That's the reason for many of today's poorer fishing results. There are other reasons too: pollution of spawning areas, residue chemical dumping at sea, and on and on; but most of our poor fishing results can be blamed on overfishing. (Did you return that last baby flounder, or did you bring it home for the cat?)

Well, anyway, let's get back to old-time bottom fishing.

During those days, no one to my knowledge was ever skunked. Even the first-timer could expect some measure of success; perhaps nowhere near as much as the experienced sinker bouncer, but there was always something in the bucket at the end of the day. If one or two beginners had real slow going, some skippers would take up a rod, fish beside the unlucky ones, and toss what fish they caught into these fishermen's buckets—large fish because of the pool chances were excluded, of course.

Ling and whiting were no problem to the beginner; but when it came to fluke, the rapid fire porgy, or the cagey blackfish, the experienced fisherman always fared better. Which is, of course, the way it is today: there's no substitute for experience. Even codfish didn't pose much of a problem those days because most winters there were more than enough to go around. (Double-headers were common.)

But I promised something on old-time porgy fishing and I better get with it.

There was a spell from about 1966 to 1970 when local fishermen couldn't catch a porgy for love or money. Maybe you caught some—but I didn't. And I tried all the old-time porgy producing spots, from the Tin Can Grounds to offshore Seabright, New Jersey. Wrecks that used to produce fantastic porgy fishing like the Iberia off Long Beach were barren. Even sea bass, that mainstay of the summer party boat fishing fleet, were few and far between. And when I so desperately tried and failed, I would stand at the rail and think back to those wondrous days of plenty.

But porgy fishing has truly enjoyed a comeback these past several years, but whether it is as good as during the days of my youth is a point of conjecture. (I think it is, especially at the eastern end of Long Island.) But I'll let you decide by relating some of my porgy fishing experiences in the long-ago.

Much of my party boat porgy fishing was done aboard those vessels which left from Canarsie or Sheepshead Bay. Even then, as you made your way along Emmons Avenue or walked through Canarsie's Golden City Amusement Park carrying your rod and tackle bag, you immediately became the target of raucous cries from party boat mates urging you to board their boats if you wanted to enjoy the best fishing. (Some years later, I was to become one of those Canarsie mates.)

I recall stopping before Fred Wrege's Effort III one summer morning and when I inquired how the porgy fishing was, I was told: "Porgies by the bushel, son; and porgies by the ton! Get aboard and catch your share." And there wasn't one bit of falsehood in that statement.

The porgy supply seemed endless; the Long Island and New Jersey commercial catch totaled 35 million pounds per year on average—at times reaching 50 million pounds! Difficult to believe, but true nevertheless. And New England commercials did as well—perhaps better. Yes, sir, porgies by the ton was no lie.

We honed our fishing skills on porgy—no doubt about that. If you waited for a bite, you were out of luck. It was necessary to place your rig on bottom in such a manner that no slack needed to be reeled in. Then all you did was lift and you were good for at least one porgy. Double-headers were quite common all day long. If you were foolish enough to wait for a bite, the chances were good you'd find your hooks stripped in seconds.

There seemed no end to the porgy's willingness to commit suicide. Come June and there they were! There wasn't a known offshore wreck or mussel bed that didn't play host to untold numbers of scrappy, rod-bending porgies.

Cries of "Let's go home!" echoed over the porgy grounds as arm weary

fishermen racked their rods and commenced the task of cleaning their catch. Usually two hours' fishing were enough to satisfy even the most avid meat fisherman. I know at that time we seldom fished porgies past noon. When close to fluke grounds we would often make a drift to settle the pool. It was either that or have passengers sort through thousands of porgies to find the largest—which would usually be only a matter of ounces so alike are porgies from one school.

Most porgies average one pound apiece, but at any time one might hit a spot which yielded two pounders. I recall fishing the Tin Can Grounds one day when all our porgies averaged one pound or slightly better, and then returning to the same spot next day and catching few fish under two pounds. When once a spot containing two pounders was located, you were assured action galore.

Some offshore wrecks south of Seabright, New Jersey seemed always to contain porgies pushing the three pound weight—sometimes larger, especially in early August. Most Sheepshead Bay skippers knew just when to fish these particular wrecks. Few of our other local skippers could excel these master fishermen when porgy fishing on those south Jersey wrecks.

But all in all, most skippers found it unnecessary to venture much beyond the Tin Can Grounds and the mussel beds on the black can side of Ambrose Channel. I recall when as a mate on Canarsie's old Rose R II how we used to bail the porgies from a Sandy Hook mussel bed. But only in September (not a porgy before), and only on a stiff nor'easter. You figure that! When the porgies did settle in on this piece of ground, it was truly wild fishing!

Of course, there were those famous overnight trips to Atlantic City made by Sheepshead Bay party boats. They certainly were popular with us guys. So popular, in fact, that much of my wintertime mail (when the fellows have more time to write and reminisce) contains references to those days. Party boats left the Bay at midnight and arrived at their destination about 6AM. This arrival time was often governed by weather conditions. A stiff south breeze meant lost fishing time. Though those southerly breezes could stir things to a fare-thee-well, we were never in any real danger—some of those party boats were 180 feet long!

The fare for this overnight adventure was five dollars and well worth it (local fishing was only two dollars, winter or summer), and if you couldn't catch fish down around Atlantic City, you were truly in poor shape as a fisherman. If memory serves me correctly, there were three big fish pools: sea bass, blackfish, and porgy. The entry fee for each was fifty cents, and this proved a big incentive to many, for these pools often reached 40 and 50 dollars. This was especially so for fishermen who were used to local pools of five or six dollars as first prize (quarter entry fee). I never won one of those Atlantic City pools, but I tried. Oh! how I tried. Just the thought of me, a knee pants Brooklyn kid who rarely had two nickels to rub together at any one time winning that money was enough to set my head awhirl. (That five dollar fare I paid came always from a pool I'd won doing local fishing. Kids those days got nothing unless they earned it themselves.)

Most fishermen were interested in the huge sea bass to be caught on those practically virgin wrecks, but occasionally one of these would yield monstrous sea porgies. I've caught my share of large porgies over the years but never have I caught so many at any one time as I did on those Atlantic City trips. I have seen five pounders come up, though I never caught one. But on most trips there were plenty of three pounders for everyone. And don't let anyone tell you that a three pound porgy isn't big!

But as good as this fishing was, most of my porgy chasing was done close to home, and usually on our local Tin Can Grounds—the then capital of New York Bight's porgy fishing. It never took much time before porgies came flying over the rail.

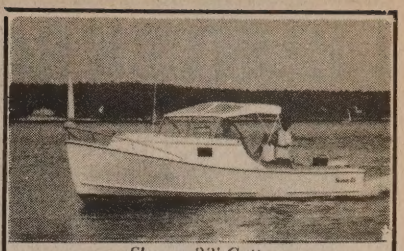
We had a set way of porgy fishing on these open bottom grounds. We always anchored first and allowed the boat to settle. Then, and only then, was fresh crushed skimmer ladled over side with the aid of a small scoop.

We never drifted first in order to locate a porgy school; we anchored first and let them come to us. Always! We found it necessary to do this because if we first located the fish by drifting, releasing of the anchor or starting up of the diesel was certain to spook the fish. Even the dropping of a heavy object on deck would often put a halt to the fishing and nothing could be done to bring back that frightened school. It then became necessary to locate another school, which most times was easy enough. Incidentally, that skimmer chum would sometimes attract stripers to 35 lbs. This happened about once a week, with the average striper running about 15 lbs.

I have always enjoyed porgy fishing (although there were times when I wasn't in the mood for all that hectic action; then I would put on a long leader, a 5/0 Sproat, fillet a porgy, cut it into strips and go fluke fishing. Many a pool winner was caught this way—which meant a couple of bucks for an Atlantic City trip).

To each his own, you know.

So—that was porgy fishing in the long ago. If left alone, I'm sure such fishing will again return—if we combat those foreign fishing fleet intentions, that is. We do have our work cut out for us, I'm afraid. So hunt up that pen you put away when Adam was a boy and be prepared to use it.



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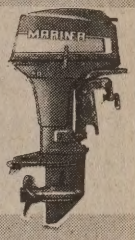

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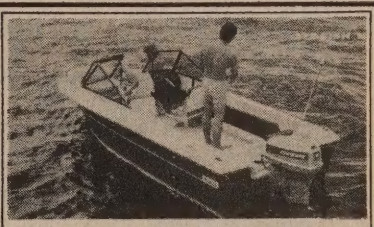

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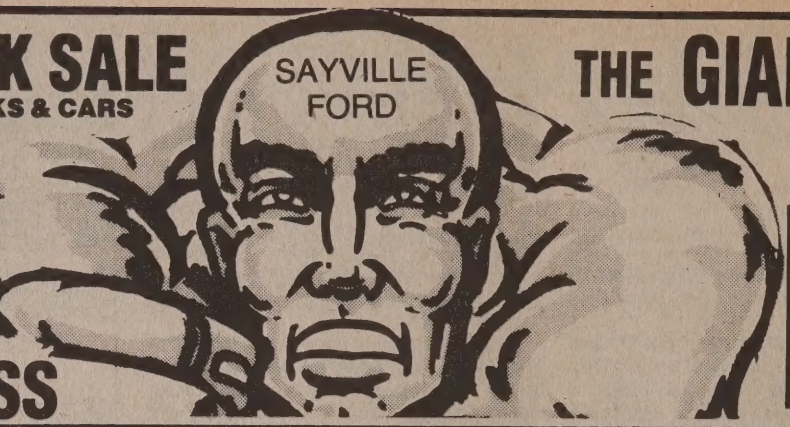

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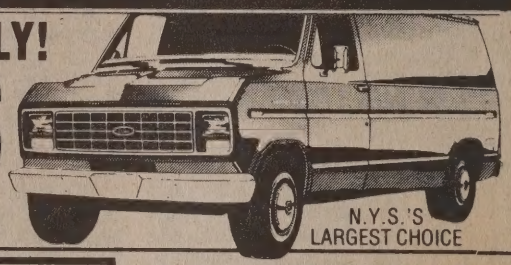

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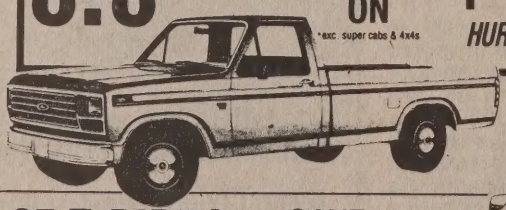

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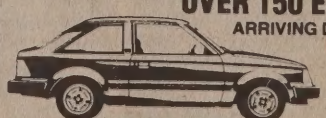

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ATLANTIC BEACH BRIDGE RECORD HUNT

by D.F. Silvestro

Author's Note: The following piece on striped bass was written about a particular trip taken a couple of years ago. On that occasion, we did not release the stripers; but now, as a practice, we free all bass that we catch. I am on a personal crusade to try and catch a new world record (lots of luck!); so releasing 40 or even 50 pound fish, bothers me not at all. When bridge fishing, releasing a large fish is easier than you might think. Simply cut the leader about a foot from her jaws, and hold on to the piece of mono as long as you can. When she has rested sufficiently, with the fast running, oxygen rich water flowing through her gills, she will begin to make quite a fuss about being held this way. Since you have not gaffed her, and as a matter of fact, never taken her out of the water, they invariably revive quite nicely. And don't forget! No stainless steel hooks!

Sometimes, if the hook is easily accessible, you might try your luck removing it. Grab the fish by the lower jaw, and lift her gently, part way out of the water. Take care! If she's still green or feisty, drop her back immediately and cut the line as previously described. The hook will soon rot and fall out, causing no real damage, whereas a battle at boatside could easily hurt you or the fish!

If you have managed to remove the hook, replace her gently and at the first sign of a struggle, let loose of her jaw.

The title of this piece notwithstanding, the techniques described herein will work well at many bridges and overpasses all along the East Coast. Living on Long Island's South Shore, we have been successful at the Meadowbrook, Wantagh and Captree Drawbridge (over the State Channel). The procedures we use, though not earth shattering in their ingenuity, were developed over the course of many fishless (or near fishless) nights. A definite case of trial and error with some deductive reasoning mixed in, not to mention luck and some tips from old-timers. These methods have produced the most consistent results a striped bass fisherman has a right to expect. In short, if the fish are there, you'll get 'em.

It was 7:30 PM and the 25 foot Mako behind my home in Oceanside was loaded and ready to go. The crew consisted of just the two of us: myself and my cousin Bob. Equipment: two 30 lb. class, 6 foot conventional boat rods, matched with 3/0 Penn Senators and spooled with 40 lb. test pink Ande line. Also aboard were two medium action spinning rods and reels with 20 lb. test on their spools. The terminal tackle on these rigs was very simple: snap swivel, 4 foot leader, one ounce egg sinker, sharpened steel treble hook.

Though we keep many lures on the Mako, we would not be using them tonight. This evening our efforts would be directed at live lining moss bunker for cow bass.

Reaching Deb's Inlet just before dark, we were happy to see that we had guessed right. The bunker were entering the inlet with the incoming tide. We would not snag any yet, but instead, headed for the bridge to get

(Continued on next page.)

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set.

It was July, a warm night and a very light breeze was drifting in from offshore. It was now fully dark and looking up, I smiled. Another part of the plan, a full moon was shining brightly above.

There's 300 feet of anchor line on the open fisherman, and we used fully 200 feet of it. Dropping the anchor 250 feet from the bridge gave us more than enough scope for safety. It might even seem excessive, but I have been on boats whose anchors have let loose and have no desire to relive the jolting experience of crashing into a bridge, in a running tide, with a big fish on.

Many people fish that bridge for bass, but most simply tie off to one of the piling, and let their bait or lures out into the current away from the structure. We have sometimes caught fish that way, but find it to be a thousandfold more productive to anchor and drift our offerings back toward the bridge.

That night, our bait presentation was accomplished in two ways when the bunker finally arrived at the boat. Using the weighted treble hooks, we quickly put half a dozen of the least harmed of the menhaden into the live well. A couple of the others, damaged beyond repair, would be used for fillet baits a bit later.

The last two fish snagged were left where they were. That's right; we never even brought them in. From the action at the tip of the pole, you would know they were hooked: either near the mouth or somewhere along their back. It's no truck really because after awhile, anyone can tell where the hook is sitting on a snagged bunker. But it is very important. For the best possible chance at hooking a large striper, you'll want the hook in one of the two places I've mentioned. Though I'll admit, sometimes, when things get a little wild—with bass chasing 100 bunker into the air, at a clip—we are not so particular.

Another live bait was placed on one of the boat poles, on a regular 7/0 steel (though not stainless) hook. We don't use stainless hooks when fishing this way because we lose some fish in the submerged structure of the bridge. If the hook isn't stainless, it corrodes easier and faster, causing less difficulty for the bass later on. But getting back to terminal tackle, there is no weight attached, only the hook and five feet of 60 lb. test leader, connected to a barrel swivel with a clinch knot. Hook and swivel are the only two pieces of hardware used. Less chance of something giving and causing a problem later.

The barb of the hook is placed, not in the bunker's back or nose or upper lip, but in his eye socket directly forward of his eye. They stay alive and frisky much longer that way and don't develop lockjaw and drown.

Bobby got the first hit.

Judging from the bite radius behind the gills of his bunker (where the rest of his fish used to be), we figured the blues were about 15 to 18 pounds. My estimate proved right when I got lucky and hooked one near the corner of his mouth.

A short time later, the tip of the rod began to vibrate wildly. The bunker on the end of the line was in obvious trouble as he headed for the open air, along with 40 or 50 of his schoolmates, as a bigger fish zeroed in on them. Bobby picked up the conventional rig and now the series of short bumps and runs told him what was going on.

This was a weakfish, a little small for the size bunker we were fishing with (almost two pounders), and she soon gave up and let the bait fish go. Subsequent examination of the terrified, but still alive menhaden revealed scrape marks on his side, and the small punctures from the weakfish's two canine teeth.

It was time for the fillet.

We put it on the other rod, on a fishfinder rigged with the same type hook and leader. In the fast moving current, it took 8 ounces of lead to keep it down. Our efforts were rewarded after a few minutes as a 10 pound tiderunner came into the net. Not a striper, but a delicious eating fish. (Try making them the same way you would Veal Parmesan—with tomato sauce). We caught two more and put the fillet rig away.

Then it got quiet for awhile. Some of the menhaden, trapped against the center section of the bridge, had managed to slip by the feeding blues and took off down the channel. Many of their schoolmates had followed and from the occasional huge eruptions we saw, so had the blues. That was fine with us. We weren't here for blues, or weakfish either, for that matter.

It took about half an hour, but then it happened. Bunker were flying out of the water in tremendous waves, some of them managing to get a full three feet or more above the surface. Only 20 feet from the scene of the action, the huge tail we saw made things clear.

She promptly grabbed the baitfish on the port rod, ran a good 100 feet to our left, and stopped. After a moment she headed for the bridge. It was then that I set the hook. I had dropped the tip of the pole, to take all pressure of the fish, as she turned the bunker in preparation of swallowing her meal whole. Now as the line came tight, I reared back. She was hooked, hooked good!

Many times, that's the point where you and the striper part company, when you try to set the hook. I wish there was a rule for hooking a bass who has a moss bunker in her mouth, but unfortunately there is none. It's just a matter of feel and luck. The best thing to do is: decide when you think the time is right, then count to five—then hit her! (Five is no magic number, but all I'm really trying to say is there is an overpowering tendency to try and set the hook too quickly. Take those extra few seconds.)

This striper fought very well, and made three or four desperate attempts to get under that bridge. I needed every bit of strength that 40 lb. test had; to keep her head from turning her head toward the structure. Once in there, she'd have been history. But luck was smiling, and fifteen minutes later she came over the side: 43 lbs. of beautiful striper.

After that we lost a few very large fish, then boated two more in the 35 to 40 lb. class. My cousin got one of them on the spinner, and we got lucky again. His fish seemed determined to fight both him and the tide. She swam right out and he fought her the majority of the 20 minutes off the bow of the Mako. Go figure that! She later weighed in at exactly 40 lbs.

Then everything died, as it usually does under that bridge, right after dawn.

"A very good night," we decided and headed for home. The fluke fishermen and the boats that were going out trolling for blues past us, headed in the other direction. Whenever I pass them, maybe it's my imagination, but I could swear they're saying," "Where are you goin', dummy? The fish are the other way!" Many times they are right, especially when my fish box is empty.

"But not this morning," I thought. Looking at the three huge tails sticking out. "Nope, not this morning!"

There are some things that we do that I feel are very important. When someone finds a trick or set of steps that work for him, it's hard to change his mind. That I know for a fact!

But anyway, here they are.

The trick of leaving a bunker right where you snag him works very well when fish are feeding on a bunker school. When your treble hook hits him, he immediately goes to the top of the bass' (or blue's) "most likely to be eaten list." Pretty logical, if you think about it. He's hurt and carrying the lead weight.

Hook the bunker in the eye socket.

There's no need to use a treble hook for this. A single hook works as well, and I think it's less likely to spook a skittish bass who's not in a feeding frenzy.

I use pink line because, to me, it's the least visible. Using both pink and blue simultaneously, on many occasions, I've had nights where stripers wouldn't touch the blue line and could not stay away from the pink. But never the other way around. (Superstition? Maybe.)

Don't be afraid to use a five foot leader or a little longer, if you like. It's difficult to handle when gaffing a big fish alone, but these difficulties are a small price for the many additional hits you will get.

Lastly. Don't put your striper gear away after the spring run. Just wait for a nice moonlit night and take your shot under a bridge. We caught those fish in July and let me see? What month did Captain Bob Rocchetta catch that 76 pounder?

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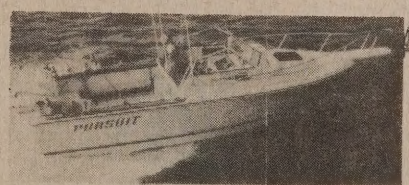

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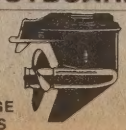

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DEMOCRAT POINT: Yesterday and Today

by John Fritz

A wide range of opportunities await casters who ply this popular state park surf spot.

Long before a bridge was erected to span Fire Island Inlet, surf fishermen were plying the shores of Democrat Point. For an angler to undertake the burden of using a boat to reach a place to fish from the beach is a tribute to the opportunities afforded a surf fisherman by this westernmost extremity of Fire Island. Many years have passed since a boat was needed to cross the inlet and during that time surf fishing here has progressed through numerous cycles, both good and bad. Because of the numerous imponderables associated with dealing with Nature, veteran anglers realize that predictions, in regard to fishing, are chancy at best.

Surf fishermen, in particular, rely on past experience and current conditions when making a decision of where to fish. Unfortunately, where superb fishing and game fish patterns were experienced in one year, a repeat engagement the following season rarely materializes. Highlights from previous seasons are seldom forgotten and the elements which led to such remembered incidents are reviewed seasonally in hopes of achieving a return encounter. Instead of following the customary practice of predicting possibilities this season at Robert Moses State Park, let me point out a few of the more memorable encounters with game fish the past several seasons, and the conditions and techniques which furthered their success. These past highlights, coupled with an awareness of the current course of events, will provide a base from which an angler can choose a technique suitable for his particular expertise. It should be mentioned that successful anglers are prepared to react to unexpected opportunities when they present themselves and to the initial rumor of fish on the beach.

In previous years the latter half of July boasted two specific areas of Democrat Point crowded with fishermen seeking weakfish. While one session which produced exceptional results is considered typical, the other flies in the face of accepted practice. The section of beach immediately east of the jetty was the scene of one success. Here, amidst a picket line of campers, chase vehicles and walkers, surf fishermen were busily piling fish on the beach. Eagle Claw, bait saver hooks, in sizes ranging from 1/0 to 5/0, tied to either a fishfinder or double loop rig, were strung with whole sand worms and floated off the bottom with the appropriate size cork.

Harbor blues offer good summer action along the backside of the jetty.

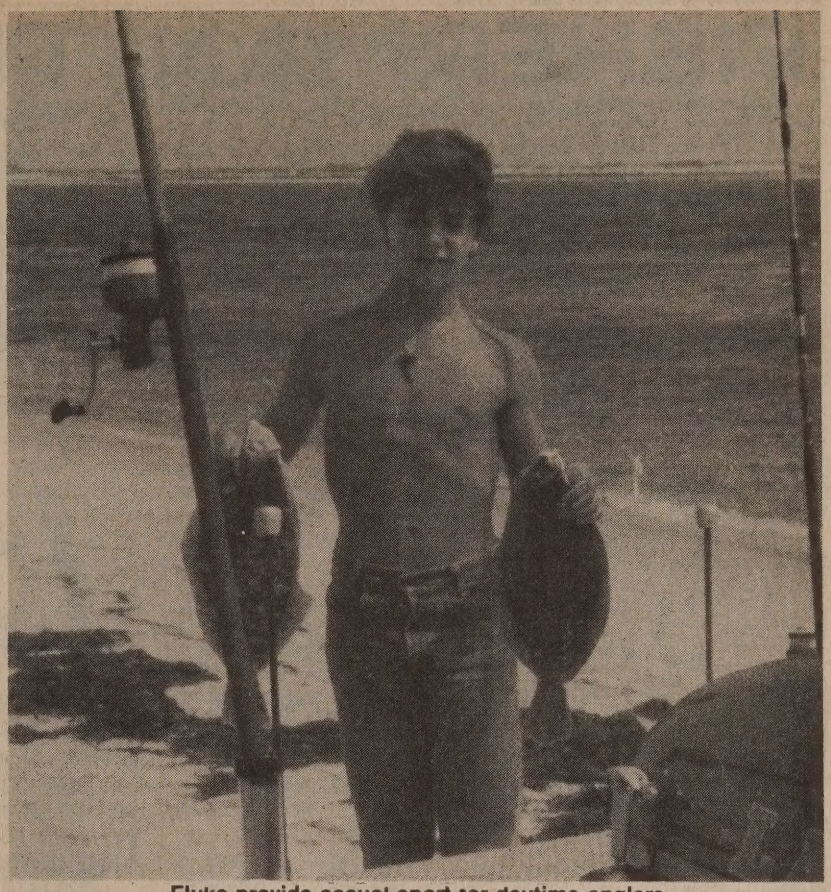
Although this fishing was steady over a period of several weeks, better results were achieved on nights when the prevailing southwesterly wind did not cease at sunset. When the ocean was ruffled by an onshore wind, the fish were inclined to move closer to the shore and the worrisome crabs were more apt to seek refuge under the sand.

The scene of another memorable session with these same spotted beauties took place within an identical time span, a short distance to the west. It was here, off the extreme tip of a sand bar, with anglers crowded elbow to elbow, that a 4H Hopkins, dragged slowly along the bottom would result in good catches of hard fighting sea trout. While some anglers felt the addition of a Red Gill teaser increased their chances, most of the time it was only necessary to cast beyond the dropoff to ensure success.

Another episode in the history of Democrat Point, which is mentioned only because there is heavy pressure to dredge the inlet in the near future, concerns an area presently non-existent: Mosquito Rip. It was here, shortly after the last time the Corps of Engineers deepened the channel to the very base of the breakwater, that Nature, in her indomitable way, formed a small sand bar off the northwest corner of Democrat Point. The rip that formed during the latter stage of the ebb tide, was a location preferred by the hordes of weakfish that prowled the inlet. Although most anglers took their share of fish using the conventional five inch minnow shaped swimmers, jelly worms, bucktails and even metal-lipped swimming plugs accounted for a fair portion of the catch.

Heretofore, the events mentioned required the hours of darkness to ensure success. For those so inclined, the daylight hours offered excellent casting for either fluke or small bluefish. These pursuits, because they can be engaged in during the day and coupled with the fact that they are invariably practiced along the more placid inlet shore, are ideal for family type outings. During the periods when fluke fishing in the inlet is at its peak, beach fishermen using light casting rods and bucktails, possibly dressed with a strip of squid or mackerel belly, could secure himself a store of fillets. A more leisurely approach can be undertaken by fishing bottom while using the standard fluke rigs and bait.

Harbor blues, on the other hand, are taken almost exclusively on artificial lures, with small tins and popping plugs being the all-time favorites. The fighting abilities of these accommodating blue devils can be better realized if they are not outclassed by heavy tackle. On light to medium spinning equipment these blues will give a good account of themselves while permitting the angler the use of the smaller lures which are accepted so readily. This type of fishing is more likely to take place along the rear breakwater or on the banks of the sand bar clogging the mouth of the inlet.



Fluke provide casual sport for daytime anglers.

Strange as it may seem to some, late August some years ago, was the time when some of the best bass fishing transpired inside Fire Island Inlet. The seaward rush of the inlet's waters (remember, there is a three hour delay between high water and slack tide) would find rubber clad anglers waist deep in waters adjoining the construction dock. Successful lures included a variety of minnow shaped swimming plugs, in both 5 and 7 inch lengths as well as sinking and floating models. One of the hottest items on the beach at that time was the 5 inch Nils Master. While most of these bass weighed in the teens and low 20s, fish into the 30s were not uncommon.

With the opening of Parking Field #4 in mid-September to fishermen, much of the surf fisherman's attention is drawn to the east. This next month is normally a time when hordes of small to medium sized bluefish swarm the oceanfront. Impressive scores are made by anglers using poppers and a wide selection of metal lures. Favorite tins include the J-8, D-5, A-17 and the short Hopkins and the addition or absence of feathered hooks or colored tubing seems to be a seasonal variance. This daytime pursuit of migratory species is often spiced with catches of weakfish and striped bass, late October introduces another change, for at this time, monster bluefish take over the waterfront.

These daylight encounters with bluefish, attaining weights of 20 lbs., is the most notable event in many a surf fisherman's season-long endeavor. During the periods when these toothsome devils are not recklessly attacking any lure thrown in their direction, bottom fishermen using live eels or chunks of bunker or mackerel will continue to haul fish onto the beach. In most years the use of bait has proven unnecessary if the angler is willing to bide his time. Hour long sessions, covering a period of days, will satisfy the most ardent surfman and allow him to enjoy Thanksgiving Dinner without a thought to the masses of bluefish frolicking in the surf.

With the possible exception of the last series of events mentioned, the repetition of these incidents is dependent upon many factors. Due to changing conditions some may never be repeated, there is always the hope that similar events will take place in the future. In the interim there is much to be enjoyed along the shores of Robert Moses State Park. Satisfaction need not be judged by a stringer full of fish. While I don't completely disagree with those who say they enjoy just being out, the gentle tug of a fish or two on the stringer is what this game is all about.

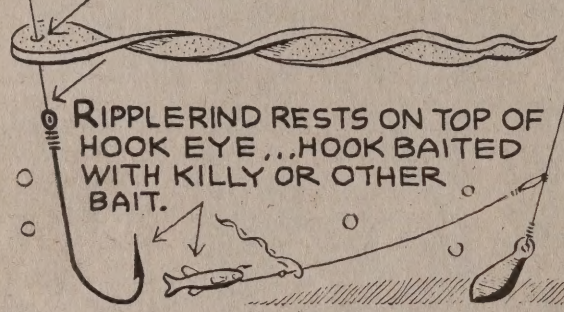
FISHERMAN TIPS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

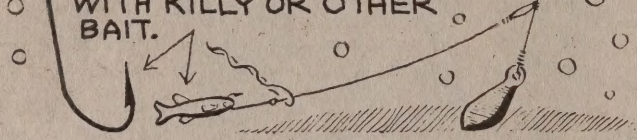
UNCLE JOSH'S "*RIPPLERIND*" IS ATTRACTING THIS SEASON'S FLUKE AS IN PAST YEARS SEZ FLUKE MAVEN GASPAR GIARRAPUTO OF L.I.

LEADER IS THREADED UP THROUGH RIND BEFORE TYING IT ON.

FIRST PUNCH SMALL HOLE IN RIND.

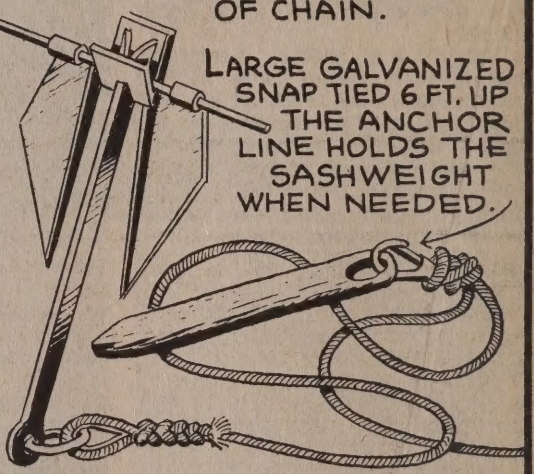


RIPPLERIND RESTS ON TOP OF HOOK EYE...HOOK BAITED WITH KILLY OR OTHER BAIT.

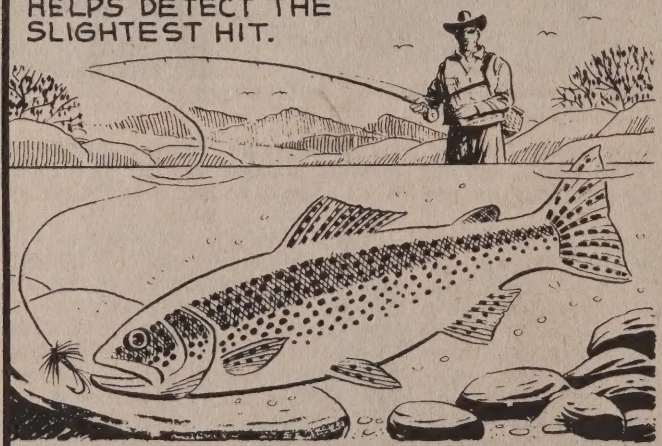


A SASHWEIGHT ATTACHED TO AN ANCHOR LINE CAN BE AN EFFECTIVE SUBSTITUTE FOR A LENGTH OF CHAIN.

LARGE GALVANIZED SNAP TIED 6 FT. UP THE ANCHOR LINE HOLDS THE SASHWEIGHT WHEN NEEDED.



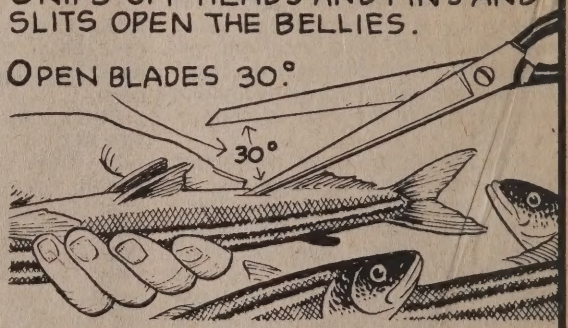
FISHING NYMPHS WITH A SHORT LINE INSTEAD OF LONG CASTS ENABLES YOU TO GUIDE YOUR FLY THROUGH THE POOLS WHERE TROUT ARE GRUBBING AND HELPS DETECT THE SLIGHTEST HIT.



SHARP LONG BLADED ORDINARY SCISSORS ARE FASTER THAN KNIVES WHEN IT COMES TO CLEANING LITTLE FISH LIKE A HUNDRED OR SO TASTY SMELT OR DELICIOUS "*WHITE FISH*" SUCH AS SPEARING AND SANDEELS.

SNIPS OFF HEADS AND FINS AND SLITS OPEN THE BELLIES.

OPEN BLADES 30°.



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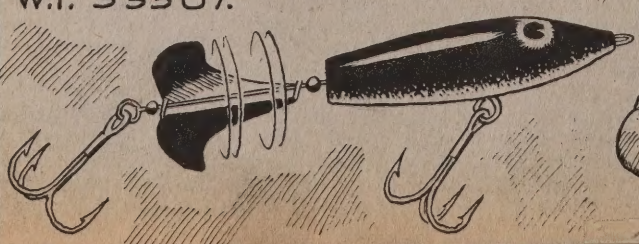

"STYROFOAM PEANUTS" USED IN PACKING FRAGILE ITEMS ARE GOOD "*FLOATS*" THAT CAN BE USED TO LIFT BAIT OFF THE BOTTOM AWAY FROM CRABS AND DEBRIS WHEN ATTACHED BETWEEN SINKER AND HOOK ON EGG SINKER OR FISH-FINDER RIGS.

GARDINER'S BAY FLUKE SPOTS

by Gerald Hahn

Small boatmen take advantage of an abundance of bay size fluke on Long Island's east end.

Last season, unusually large numbers of fluke invaded the South Shore and the East End bays and the shallower regions of Long Island Sound. However, the ratio of shorts (fluke under 14 inches) to keepers increased, ranging from 3:1 to as much as 5:1. The season was odd in another respect: the largest fluke were taken almost exclusively at the beginning of the migration. By example, some party boat skippers on the East End found a large body of doormat fluke off Horton's Point on the Sound, but by midsummer they stopped fishing here. Montauk and Gardiner's doormats thinned out early as well. Usually the largest fluke are caught during the beginning and end of the season, which extends from mid-June to early September.

By no means did the lack of doormat fluke put a dent in the fluke fishing population. However, many people were satisfied catching the smaller fish. Indeed, more fishermen than ever, especially those in small boats, could be seen fishing for bay sized fluke. This kind of fishing is especially well-suited to the small boat angler, whether he launches his own vessel or rents a skiff. Fluke favor shallow water close to shore, and when they are as abundant as last year, even a novice does well.

By example, last season I rented a skiff with two friends, and we fished for fluke off Cedar Point, which marks the entrance to Northwest Harbor in the western part of Gardiner's Bay. Although I had fished on two occasions on a friend's boat (for porgies and weaks) in other parts of this bay, I had never tried it on my own for fluke. Furthermore, my two companions, Dr. Florence Kelson and her friend Irene, a former New Yorker

(Continued on next page.)

Dr. Florence Kelson displays a fluke she caught off of Cedar Point.

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now fishing on Florida's Gulf Coast, had never fished here at all. I'm far from a beginner at fluke fishing, but whenever I try a new waterway I treat myself as a novice.

I pulled out the map, which had been provided by the proprietor of the fishing station, and noticed that the entrance to Northwest Harbor is irregularly formed by Cedar Point on the northeast side and Shelter Island's Mashomack Point on the southwest side. In this area, the proprietor of the fishing station had marked numerous places to try for fluke, including the west side of Mashomack almost to the South Ferry, the east side of Mashomack to buoy 6, both sides of Cedar Point and in the harbor itself, south of the black and red spindles. Rather than explore them all, we decided to limit our search for fluke to around the harbor entrance.

We set forth in the rental skiff with a 7.5 hp outboard and were soon chugging along under a lead gray sky. On this windless, humid morning, it took 45 minutes to reach Mashomack Point, the water beneath us like pea soup, the current at dead slack tide. Trying to drift for fluke in this kind of water without a breeze is like trying to push-start my old clunker of a car. The fishing, of course, was absolutely dead at Mashomack. After sometime here, I was about to forego the fluke in favor of porgies when I noticed some boats off Cedar Point, northeast of us. It took only a few minutes to reach them, but the situation there was the same. When the boats started leaving Cedar, Irene and Flo looked at me as though to suggest that the grass might be greener elsewhere. I convinced them that waiting for some current at Cedar would be better than driving aimlessly all around the bay.

About an hour after we had arrived at Cedar the current began to move. Charts indicating a half hour for the tide to change are merely average indications, for at Cedar it took twice that time to move the boat with conviction. Two drifts later, Irene broke the ice with a bay porgy, and on the drift after that, Flo hooked a short fluke, which she released. More than just the current was starting to move.

For the next hour and a half, in fact, the fishing improved steadily. On every drift someone hooked a fluke and several times the three of us had our rods bent over. Keeping one line short, one long and one in-between, helps avoid tangles, but on a small boat they are almost inevitable when everyone has a fish on. We were grateful not to lose any fluke at these times. Since the fish favored the shore side of the drifting boat (the bow), I (in the stern) had the fewest tangles. I also had the fewest hook-ups.

No matter, for I was better able to concentrate on the drift patterns here. In most places, when you are drifting, sooner or later something changes. At the beginning, the outgoing tide had taken us on a northeasterly course, so I began each drift close to the abandoned lighthouse on Cedar Point. This course took us slowly across a productive sandy dropoff where fluke were feeding. Further inshore, there were only weeds and scavengers and offshore the bottom became hard, an ideal place to catch porgies but not fluke.

Soon, however, the drifting course changed from northeast to southeast and suddenly we were heading for the beach. Not wanting to become a surfcaster for the rest of the day, I corrected this course by heading into deeper waters off the lighthouse. These drifts were less productive, however, for we were now crossing the sandy slope at a sharper angle than before, the drifts being more to the south than to the east. The most rewarding area that day seemed to be between the lighthouse and a black can buoy to the east and I was determined to keep the boat in this vicinity. Thus, although the fishing slowed somewhat, we continued catching fluke. Curiously, as the outgoing tide developed, the course reverted to the earlier pattern, and once again we had to begin close to shore. Had there been a wind, of course, the whole pattern would have to be reconsidered. For instance, a stiff breeze from Gardiner's Island, northeast of Cedar Point, would have altered these drifts to the north, perhaps even to the northwest.

Light tackle consisting of a 7 foot spinning rod with a small matching reel such as the Daiwa 1300 or the Penn 450 spooled with 10 lb. test was adequate for this kind of fishing. Although some people use two-hook rigs for fluke, I find that a single hook is more effective, especially when three people are fishing in close quarters. Fewer tangles, more hook-ups. Besides, fluke seldom rise to a high hook. The rig is kept simple, beginning with a 2/0 beak hook snelled to a three foot leader of 30 lb. test. A three way swivel, with a wire clip attached to one of the eyelets for a two ounce bank sinker, keeps the snelled hook near the bottom where it belongs, and not tangling around the main line or the sinker. At Cedar, some 3 and 4 ounce banks should be handy as well. If you need anything heavier, fish for porgies or stay home. An improved clinch knot secures the main line to the swivel's 2nd eyelet, and the remaining eyelet receives the snelled hook. I find this rig more effective in 10 to 15 feet of water than a rig formed with a dropper loop on the main line slightly above an end loop for the sinker. The swivel and its wire clip may pick up a little more seaweed, but the snelled hook usually remains straight and clean.

Fluke are fond of combination platters. If they could speak, they wouldn't order a BLT with a side order of chips but a Double S: a strip of squid and a side order of spearing, sand eel or smelt. The best way to rig any of the latter three baitfish is to hook it once between the eyes and the hard gill cover. This allows the thawed out baitfish to stream in the

current as though it were still alive. A 1/2 by 3 inch pennant-shaped strip of squid, with its speckled skin removed, is then impaled once near the wide end. For additional flutter, the squid's pointy end is split in half. Other effective baits to consider are live killies and live or dead snappers. The former are sold at some fishing stations and are kept frisky in a wood box that floats alongside the boat. Killies are best hooked through the eyes or lips so that their frantic wriggling action will attract a fluke, whether or not a squid strip is added. Snappers are abundant at Cedar Point—and just about everywhere else—by the beginning of August. Catch a snapper with a small chromed spoon weighing no more than 1/2 ounce and transfer is to the fluke rig, hooking it in the eyes or through the shoulder, just ahead of the dorsal fin. Since snappers are larger than the other baitfish, the addition of squid is superfluous. Dead ones should be rigged through the mouth and out the gill cover, and then near the tail. Also to be considered is squid head with its hypnotic tentacles and a strip cut from a small—not a short—fluke with the skin intact.

That day we limited our selection to sand eels, spearing and squid. Just in case, I had also brought along some clams for porgy fishing. Neither the sand eels nor the spearing seemed to have the edge, as long as they included squid. In fact, many of the porgies we landed as a by-catch were attracted to the squid. Curiously, however, squid heads only brought up spider crabs and sea robins.

The fluke didn't give us much trouble, although most of them behaved in typical fashion. Rather than reacting to every faint nibble with a raised rod tip, we lowered our rods and let out some line, and the tailgaters were soon bumping into our hooks. A landing net, moreover, ensured our keeping the keepers. Bay fluke are poor fighters, but lots of fun to catch on a drifting boat.

By 1PM, Flo and Irene were suffering from the stifling humidity, and although we could have remained until 3:45 PM before returning the boat at 4:30 PM, we all agreed to call it quits. We had caught 19 fluke, about one-third keepers, and a mess of porgies as well. Sea robins, spider crabs and calico crabs were part of the summer fare and we had also hooked our share of the numerous sand sharks and sea skates that inhabit East End waters. Not bad for a half day's fishing by "three novices."

As mentioned, in midsummer, fluke can also be taken in almost every bay, as well as in the Sound. Most rental stations provide a map of local hotspots, which eliminates guessing and excessive running around. So even if you're a novice at fluke fishing, concentrate on drift patterns at these places, especially around the change of tide and be patient. If this season is like the last, you will soon become a pro.

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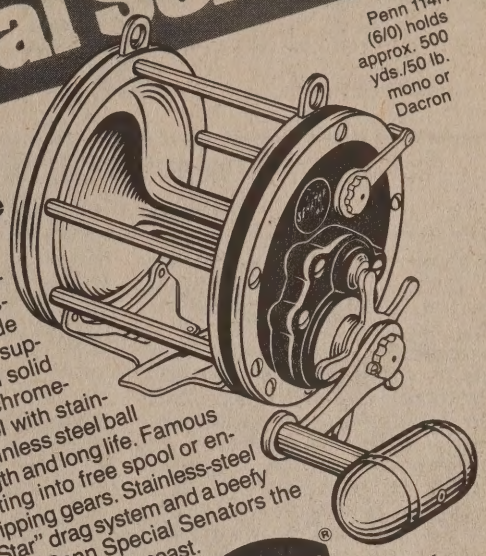

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SASSY FLUKE

by Dick Mermon

The author discovers that our local summer flatties like soft plastic minnows just fine.

It has always puzzled me why fishermen pursuing similar saltwater species in different parts of the country exercise techniques within their respective locations and never deviate from that particular scheme. For instance, Florida's East Coast anglers rely primarily on bucktails for their share of fish, while West Coast fishermen remain true to soft plastics, and never the two shall meet. This very same philosophy is also true with certain anglers in the Northeast, especially for summer flounder, or fluke.

While residing in the sunshine state for several months, I had the opportunity to test each theory, bucktails and soft plastics on both coasts for their summer flounder (the same species as our fluke) and brought the systems back. Each works equally well for the summer flatties here in the local waters.

Recently, I have experimented with several counterfeit, soft plastic minnow type lures, one of which is a three inch Mister Twister Sassy Shiner. Since fluke are voracious feeders, there is no hesitation in their attack upon the lure and generally a fish hooks itself.

This small plastic minnow was designed fundamentally for freshwater fishing, but whatever turns on sweet water species should work with their brothers and sisters in the brine. All it takes is a little imagination and time for trial and error. The Sassy Shiner is used in conjunction with a lead head jig. The hook is passed through the lure's head and out the back, between its split dorsal fin. Not only does this conceal the hook, but allows the bait to ride in an upright position on the retrieve.

The lure is modeled to be fished either against, with, or even crossways to a current. The minnow-shaped artificial supports a tail that oscillates frantically, emitting sound

Paul Bardenhagen reaches for a fluke that fell for a twister tail.

waves which, in turn, attract the fluke's attention. However, when the shiner is cast upcurrent, it must be brought in faster than the current, or the action is slightly lost. Held against the water's motion, or downcurrent, the lure can be manipulated on the bottom (where it should be all the time), in a stop-go action. This provides a never ending tail gyration. In a cross-current retrieve, the shiner is also brought back in a hesitation or pause gesture, allowing it to rest occasionally on bottom. Here, the current will carry it along slightly and all that is required by an angler is to maintain a taut line.

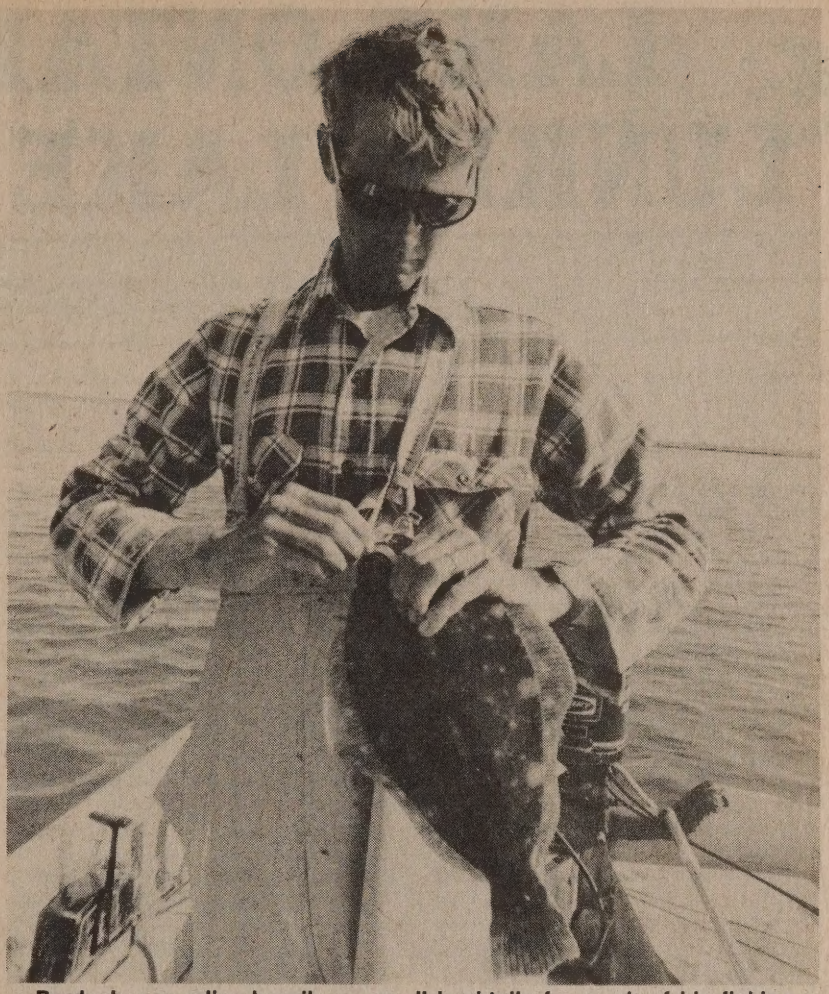
Keeping a Sassy Shiner on the bottom calls for three things: proper lead head jig weight, depth of water and pre-chosen line weight (pound test). Lightweight line permits a lure to descend faster with smaller size offerings. Heavier pound test lines offer greater water resistance, producing a drag on a lure and the strike may go undetected. Therefore, it is vitally important to choose the proper weight line for the location being fished.

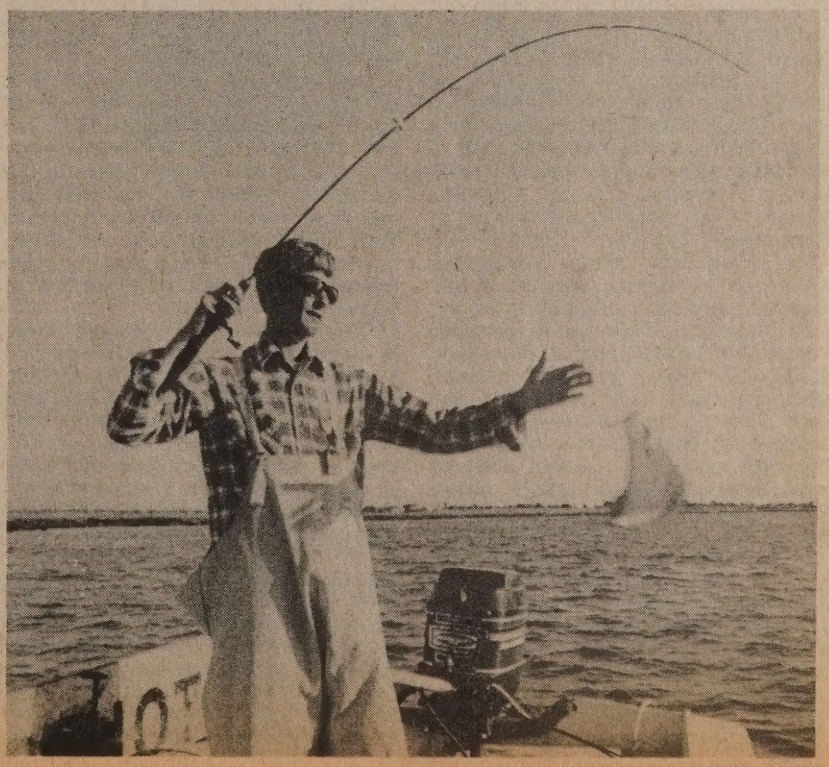
Lure color is also a dominant factor when employing a Sassy Shiner. White, chartreuse or gold seems to be favored by fluke, especially in murky water or in deep channel areas.

Bucktails have always been an old standby imitation for every type of piscatorial species and many anglers still favor them when their target is the summer flounder. Tipped with a single strand of squid, the lure becomes even more effective, producing a third dimension: aroma. However, should the lure lack this extra flair, it reverts back to a two place offering as does the soft plastic imitation, without vibrating emissions. There are periods when fluke will refuse this bait imposter because of its size. Their dining habits have been aimed at a tiny prey, the sand and grass shrimp. Even a 1/8 oz. bucktail becomes overpowering in size and fish merely grab the tail end. A stinger hook could solve the problem, but let me offer another solution.

Attach a single #4 size hook onto the bucktail's hook with a three or four inch section of 15 lb. test monofilament and permit it to trail out the back. Onto this free floating hook, slide a yellow or white two inch curly tail Mister Twister. The bucktail now acts as a conveyor and attractor for the tiny artificial. In reality, it is a dropper type lure for fluke.

Natural bait for any saltwater species has its time and place, but man made enticements are easily obtainable and when utilized properly can nudge out the native offering. These "look-alikes" are not totally fishermen catchers. They do create a desirable charm which appeals to fish also and at times, more so. Seldom do the bait stealers, the smaller, ever hungry, ever present, less desirable species chase an artificial. They leave it be for the larger gamesters.





Bardenhagen relies heavily on small bucktails for much of his fluking (above), but has recently added soft plastics to his arsenal (below).

LAKE ONTARIO'S LUNKER LAKE TROUT

by Rich Giessuebel

If you are getting tired of catching the same old thing, or if you really want to catch something large with perhaps intentions of getting it mounted, Lake Ontario lake trout may be worth looking into. Average catches on the big lake usually mean the limit. Three fish, with the largest over 10 pounds. True, your daily limit is five trout; however, you are allowed only three lake trout in your total catch. So, if you are lucky enough to catch your limit of lakers early, you just might be able to try for some browns or steelhead to finish off your limit.

I can recall a late August catch in which we had four wall fish, each of a different species. There was an 8 lb. brown, an 11 lb. lake trout, a 15 lb. coho salmon and a 22 lb. chinook salmon to go along with our total of 20 fish caught by our party of four. Catches like this aren't uncommon, in fact, they are more the rule. You can fish almost anywhere around the lake, but as the season wears on, Sandy Pond around to Henderson Harbor in the northeast corner of the lake proves to be the best location. So, if you like the possibilities, consider giving the big lake a tumble this year.

From late June until late August, most trout caught on the big lake are pale green and have a forked tail. Lake trout by name, these fish are anxious to strike most lures presented to them where they like to wait for a meal. Namely, they want the lure to be rather near some bottom structure and in 51 degrees of water. Combine these two components and you are in business.

At Henderson Harbor by Stony Point, the 51 degrees of water in late July and throughout August is around 100 feet deep. This depth coincides nicely with underwater canyons and cliffs which give large lakers the exact temperature and structure they desire. Hence, most large lake trout come from this location. In order to fish this location, your boat must be equipped with downriggers and a good fish finder. If you want to jig for these fish, then all you will need is a good fish finder.

Over the years, we have used a Humminbird recorder. Its pinpoint accuracy has enabled us to find good concentrations of lakers near very demanding bottom structures. Once the fish are located, getting them to bite is the next problem. Much has been written on trolling these fish, but very little has been expressed on just how to jig them. So, let's spend some time on a technique that will work well on lake trout no matter where you have located them!

For water that is over 100 feet deep, you must use bucktails that are 1½ to 2 ounces. If there is little wind or current, you might be able to get away with the most preferred size 5/8 to 1 ounce. The bucktails work best in all white and with an attached hook style, not a free swinging hook style. A big eye painted on the bucktail is of no consequence, but what really does matter is to attach a strip of fresh prime lake trout bait to the end of the bucktail. The best bait for lakers is sucker. River chubs will work nicely, too.

We often spend the day before a jigging trip catching prime baits. Once they are caught, they are filleted into strips 3 to 4 inches long with about a 3/4 inch width at the top. These strips are placed in Tupperware containers and refrigerated. When ready to use, simply place a strip of bait on the hook of the bucktail. Drop the bucktail down to the bottom and retrieve straight upward. Big lakers will often follow the bait and grab it anywhere between the bottom and the surface.

This technique works best if there is little wind, current, or drift. Once the recorder has located the fish, you simply drop in on them. The true key ingredient to this approach is the added inducement of the sucker bait. We have taken lakers on bucktails that didn't have any bait on them, however, you will receive many more follows and strikes if the sucker bait is added.

Another way to jig these big lakers is with large heavy Luhr-Jensen Krocodile or Casting Wobbler spoons. Best combination colors are blue and white. The best approach is to drop the lure all the way down to the bottom. Then, point your rod's tip directly at the spoon. Now, lift the tip straight up over your head and drop it back down to the bottom again. This gives the spoon a real fluttering action. When brought through an area of high laker activity, spoons fished in this manner score well. Spoons should be made of thick heavy metal, 1½ ounces at least.

You can expect a strike any time. However, lakers usually grab the lure just as it flutters back down to the bottom. Then, as you lift up, you may encounter the heavy weight of a lunker laker. Set the hook and reel him in.

The nicest part about catching lake trout on jigs or spoons is that you do not need exceptionally heavy tackle. Medium action spinning tackle with light 8 to 10 lb. test line is fine. If you like light tackle, nothing stops you from trying 4 to 6 lb. test either! Just make certain that the conditions allow your lures to go almost straight down. If they are running off in some other direction, the best approach for catching your prize laker will have to be by trolling.

Trolling hardware usually remains pretty much the same, while techniques and lures change. So, from this point on, we will consider that you have a reputable downrigger outfit and adequate knowledge of its usage. We will, therefore, concern ourselves with the many new and old effective lures on the market and the best approaches for presenting these lures to the lake trout.

Some new trolling lures that have proven to be rather good are put out by Storm Lures. Their Thinfin is a tremendous trout catcher in any lake or reservoir sporting a sizable population of alewife herring. Their Wiggle Wart and Wee Wart also have proven very effective on catching steelhead rainbow trout offshore. The best finishes for the Thinfin is silver shad. While the Warts are better in hot colors like fluorescent red and chartreuse.

From Luhr-Jensen, the Alpena Diamond is an old standby. This heavy spoon has caught its share of lakers and salmon, but the best lure put out now by this company is its new Flutterspoon. Hammered nickel, brass and nickel, nickel/neon blue stripe and silver plate all are scoring well on the lake trout populations at the big lake. Another entry is their Loco; however, we highly recommend replacing the set of trebles on this lure with a single salmon type hook. The chartreuse Dot and nickel/silver Prism-lite are two good producers.

New lures from Mepp's Tackle Company are their Syclops spoons with Mister Twister tails. We have not personally tried this lure while deep water trolling for lakers, but from all indications, the lure has a very tantalizing motion that is almost sure to score. Mepp's Spoons have

always been considered dangerous to lake trout. They are big and imitate a large injured herring. Their red tail seems to indicate a bleeding fish. Trout have always jumped onto this lure and we highly recommend you try pulling it past the noses of some lake trout this year.

Rebel lures and tackle boxes have proven their effectiveness over the years. Therefore, we can't wait to try their new Fastrac Shad series. Designed for bass, these fine looking lures should prove effective on lake trout, too. After all, the Rebel Minnow was designed for bass and is perhaps the best overall big trout lure ever made.

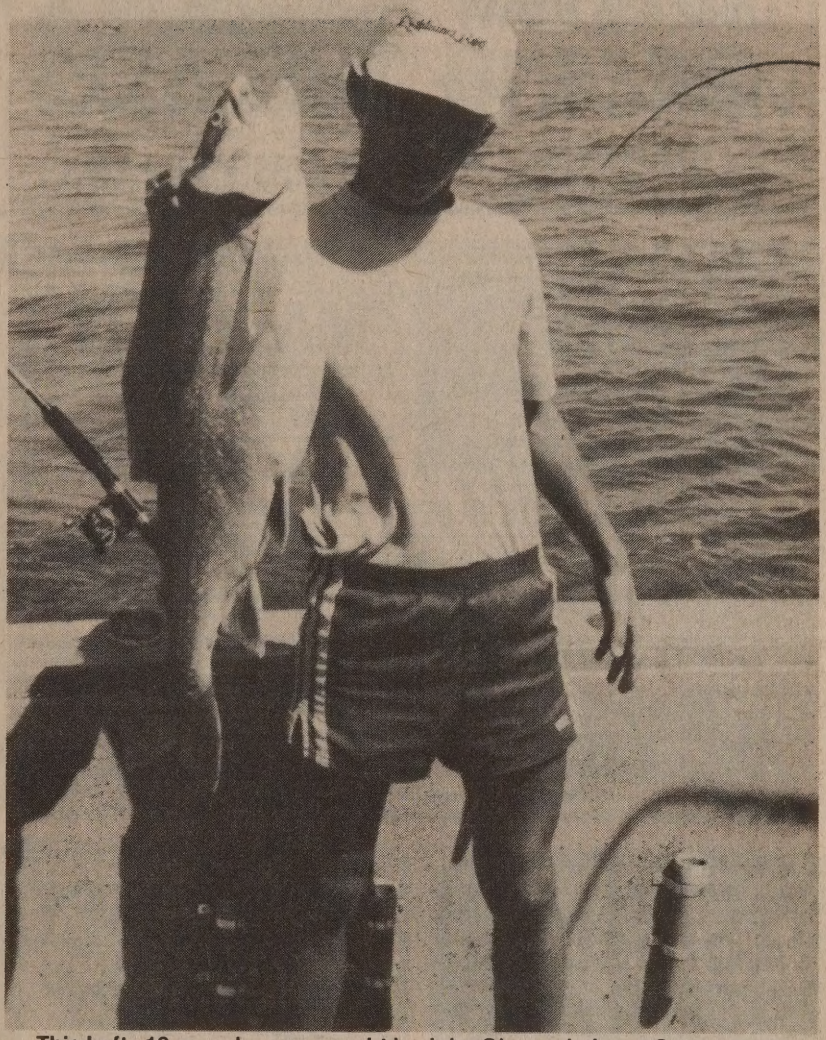
From Mann's Company, we get the chartreuse Finn Mann and Hackle-back lures. These two lures are great fish attractors and catchers. On the best days we have ever encountered on the lake, these lures were always down in our patterns. So, don't leave them off your list!

For places to store those lures, two good companies spring to mind. Both Plano and Fenwick-Woodstream have put out a very dependable product. The Fenwick 20 and 40 cases hold tons of lures and conveniently allow you to view all of them at once without opening the box. Also, their Drawer Boxes are great places to store your long swimming type plugs.

Plano also makes a Drawer type box and it has been improved to the degree that you can change compartment sizes to meet your needs. Their Magnum series of cases also allow you to select your lure without ever opening the case. This is a great aid when you are in a hurry to find the lure you want. The plastic is also worm proof and anyone who has ever lost an expensive case due to melted plastic worms certainly knows the value of that feature.

As for effective techniques, we try to run from two to four downriggers at one time. We often run two lures off of one rod on one downrigger. This is accomplished by running the first lure off the downrigger release. This lure should be a crankbait like the Mann's Chartreuse Finn Mann. Then, about 6 feet up the line, we place a second leader back 8' to a flutterspoon. This leader is placed on the line using a snap swivel and held in place with a rubber band. When the fish strikes the flutterspoon, the rubber band either breaks or slides down the line, pulling it free from the release and coming to rest at the crankbait's swivel.

These combinations of two lures are fished at different depths to cover all the water showing 51 degrees. Should one depth prove more consistent over the other depths, more lures will be placed at that depth. For example, let's say we have our downrigger weights at 95, 100, 105 and 110 feet down. Let's say that the 100 foot downrigger is getting the most consistent action and the 95' one hasn't had a touch. Well, then we'd drop the 95' one down to 100' also and see if that doesn't affect the return of fish.



This hefty 12 pounder was caught by John Giessuebel on a Sutton spoon fished 100 feet down.

The poor return can also be associated with the lure combination on that downrigger. So, if the combination just moved doesn't produce at the hot depth, we will change the lures to either match or most approximate the lures that have been doing well. When things really get slow, we always pull one downrigger through concentrations of marks on the recorder that might indicate brown trout activity at a much higher position and temperature.

Browns like 60 degrees and are often down around 40' as compared to the lakers which may be down over 100'. Also, if we are catching lakers, every time we have a lure snap off due to a missed hit or something, we reel it in slowly through the higher stratas of water in hopes of catching a brown or something. You'd be surprised at the number of times we are surprised by a stray brown's strike.

Finally, you might want to give live bait a try. Several of our friends have done well on live alewife herring. They have transported their bait from home in aeration units and have fished them off heavy weights at the desired depths. Lake trout and brown trout are quick to jump on. Once a friend said he was out of three dozen bait before two hours was up. That's not too shabby.

Well, there are many ways to try for these great tasting and beautiful fish. But the best time still remains constant. If you want to catch a few of these guys and possibly get a wall fish then consider going up to the big lake from late June around into August. I'm sure you won't be disappointed. Good fishing!

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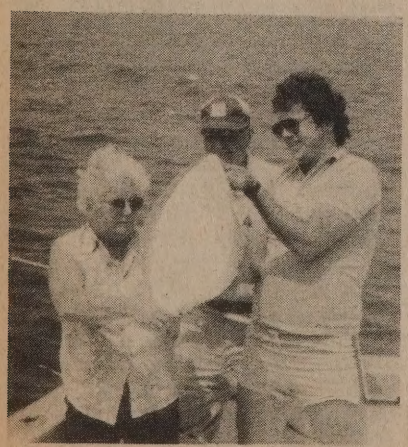
East End REPORT

with Mrs. Lorry Mangan

East end porgy action has picked up the past week, with porgies reported in the Montauk, Gardiner's Island and Sag Harbor areas. Fluke, weaks, blues, and bass are in the news. Offshore, very large blue sharks along with threshers and makos are a pretty good bet. Bluefish put a damper on giant tuna, however, large schools of yellowfin and school bluefin are off Shinnecock. The canyon and "fingers" have come alive.

MONTAUK

Joan at **Captain's Cove Marina** reported hot bluefishing, a slowdown in weekend fluke action and an increasing amount of porgies taken over the weekend. However, the center of focus at the Marina was the Annual Montauk Captain's Association Charity Shark Tournament held July 6th and 7th. Over 70 boats participated, with most winning sharks being large, male blue sharks. 27 blue sharks were weighed, four threshers from 180 to 343 pounds plus three makos. The winning mako was caught by Donald Toth on the "Chapter II," a fish of 243 pounds. Winning first place with a thresher of 343 pounds was Karl Sewall on the "Round One." Joe Logalbo took second with a 330 pound blue shark caught on the "Mako-25." Third place went to Capt. Mike Moe with a 319 pound blue shark caught on the "Caravan." Jack Parascondola's 303



Josephine Dippel decked this 9¼ lb. doormat fluke while drifting a sand eel bait on Montauk's south side last summer.

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pound blue shark, on the "Tender Lady" took fourth place. Some of the sharks weighed in and finishing with tackle prizes, included a blue shark of 289 pounds caught on the **Mary A,** and a 277 pound blue shark on the **Joy Sea.** Wally Oakland brought back a 146 pound mako on his marina based boat "Sea Doll."

Capt. Joe McBride, president of the MCA, declared the tournament an "outstanding success." Scholarships of $1,000 each were awarded to Montauk residents Barry Kohler and Andrew Barry, for their studies at Suffolk Community College. $500 was dontated to the Cancer Society, while a large donation was also made to the Shark Research Team from Rhode Island, led by Jack Casey.

Maureen Senefelder of **Gone Fishing Marina** says that fluke action is very good at Gin Beach, Culloden and also Shagwong. Porgy action was very good at Gardiner's Island, before the weekend boat traffic, and is predicted to get hotter now that the holiday is over. Capt. Bob Rochetta reported a good catch of "trophy size" stripers on the charter boat **Rainbow** during the week. Capt. Bob Storc reported a good day with six blue sharks to 116 pounds and a couple of brown sharks on a charter with Tim Magee on the **Caprice** south of the Butterfish Hole during the week. Several larger fish were baited, but threw the hook.

Capt. Howard Zeitlin usually fishes Lake Ontario on his boat "Hell's A Poppin." Instead he decided to vacation at **Gone Fishing Marina** to try for big game. Salmon and trout fishing must appear tame after fighting and boating a 217 pound mako.

Charlie Fuchs reported that three giant tuna were caught in three trips (Thursday, Friday and Sunday) by Capt. John Weigert on the "Lady Iris." Bonita, yellowfin and marlin were seen in the "Fingers" with six yellowfins in the 90 to 100 pound range brought into **Star Island Yacht Club** on the "Lucky L" by John Jind. A bigeye was boated on the "Barbara Jack" as well. Charlie reported a very busy weekend inshore as well, with lots of bluefish, good porgy catches, lots of seabass and good fluking in the North Rips. Some stripers around as well.

According to Capt. John DeMaio, weakfishing slowed down a bit during the week, but picked up over the weekend. On Sunday, 30 weakfish with fluke, porgies and bluefish were caught on two charters on the **Vivienne.** It appears that at present, weakfish action is way ahead of last year's, both in quantity and size.

Capt. Ron Grandinetti fished with Joe Radd on the **Julie III** on Thursday on the south side of the Point. 81 sea bass to 3½ pounds, along with 18 blackfish, some flounder, fluke and porgies were caught on clam bait.

Capt. Michael Potts fished an overnight Canyon trip on Tuesday and Wednesday with the Cook group, returning with a 137 pound bigeye

tuna and five yellowfin in the 40 pound range. On Friday, three blue sharks to 275 pounds and two brown sharks were taken with the Pfeller group on the **Bluefin IV.** A blue shark of 241 pounds, caught by the Sturgis' was entered in the weekend's MCA shark tournament. On the **Bluefin I,** the Paolicelli's boated a 60 pound mako in the beginning of the week, while the rest of the week was devoted to bluefishing with loads of blues to 15 pounds caught at Cartwright.

Capt. Jay Rigano recently fished a mixed bag with the Mike Sterino charter on the **Lori Jay,** with a mako of 50 pounds caught in the morning and weakfish in the afternoon. A blue shark of 250 pounds was entered in the MCA shark tournament by John Lacelli, who usually mates on boats in Freeport, but fished the **Lori Jay** for the tournament with his father and a friend. Capt. Rigano reported lots of blue shark action on Saturday. However, on Sunday, when he returned to the same spot with cousin David Rigano, Bobby, Louie and some friends, the spot was void of fish. Only a few bluefish bit in the fog.

Port Jefferson resident Jim Hunt trolled a daisy chain made of mackerel on the "Magician's" first trip of the season. John Butler handled a 538 pound giant tuna easily.

Capt. Joe McBride tagged and released over 40 blue sharks, some nearly 300 pounds, on the **My Mate** during the past week. Capt. McBride feels that it is very unusual to see so many large male blue sharks in Montauk waters this early in the season. Bob Miller and his friends fished the two day MCA tournament, catching and tagging blue sharks. A sandbar shark, tagged on the **My Mate** in 1981 was recovered a month ago in the Gulf of Mexico, testifying to the value of participating in the shark tag program. Capt. McBride has a few August dates available.

Although action slowed a bit on Sunday, a 97 pound blue shark was caught on the **Pronto** by Al Dwyer fishing east of Montauk.

Capt. Bill Ricca located the smallest shark in the MCA tournament: a 21 pound mako, measuring 41 inches with Pete Scala on the **Alyssa Ann.** The fish will make a beautiful wall mount.

Capt. Phil Lewis reports a very productive week on the **Adios,** with plenty of large blue sharks and bluefish on Monday and Tuesday. On Wednesday, Bill Glover (the grandson of noted author Kip Farrington) handled a giant tuna of 525 pounds. A holiday charter with Jeff Becker located a thresher shark of 189 pounds, with Eric on the rod. However, the highlight of the week was the mako shark of 585 pounds handled by Jim, a young man who was on his first offshore trip. The big fish made four jumps. Jim fought the fish on 60 pound test line, standing up. Thanks to the excellent coaching of Skippy (the mate) and Capt. Lewis, the fight lasted an

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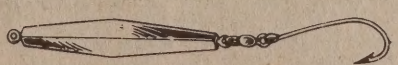

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hour and the fish successfully brought to gaff.

Shark action was heavy on the **Joy-Sea** on Monday, when Art Baltryn of Virginia and his friends hooked and fought 12 blue and 12 brown sharks. On Thursday, July 4th, Keith Blake was on the rod when a three hour fight on a dusky shark, estimated at 600 pounds ended with the hook straightening out and the fish lost. Friday's charters for bluefish with the Goldberg's and others loaded up with choppers. Joe Bisbano, daughter Bonnie and friends from Harrison, N.Y. entered a 277 pound blue shark in the MCA tournament on Saturday, and took eighth place. On Sunday, heavy offshore swells forced the group to fish inshore where they loaded up on bluefish.

Capt. Jim Flowers fished southeast of Block Island on Friday, where six blue sharks to 284 pound were caught on the **Mary A** with Mr. Mediote and his friends. Tom Minch and his friends, entered in the MCA shark tournament, caught eight blue sharks on Saturday, top weight 289 pounds, while on Sunday five sharks, to 277 pounds were fought. Saturday's fish placed sixth in the MCA tournament and won a large assortment of fishing rods, line, umbrella rigs, hooks and lures.

Blue shark action was pretty constant on Saturday on the **Mako Express** when I fished with Pat O'Connor, John Lorusso, Lou Sabatello, Bob "Goldy" Goldberg and Capt. Zac Grossman. John fought a 245 pound blue shark for about an hour. Videotapes of the capture of this fish will be featured on Fishing Forecast this weekend (Brookhaven Cable TV Channel 6, 6 p.m. Friday, 5 p.m. Saturday). On Sunday, a 246 pound thresher was brought for weighing to the MCA tournament scales. A charter arranged by Peter Scala with his friends Mike, Ray, Steve and Mike returned on Monday with a 226 pound mako. I understand the fish jumped twice and took only 40 minutes to bring to gaff.

Edelman's Lou Rosado fished south-southwest of the Point on the Bullet on Friday, leaving Montauk in a "black fog" with his son and friend, Andy. A large thresher shark was hooked up immediately, jumped seven times, landing as close as 10 feet from the boat. The last leap resulted in line wrapping around the fish's tail and a breakoff. The pace was set for the rest of the day: A mako, making seven jumps before throwing the hook, a big brown shark lost, a basking shark lolling in the slick and a sunfish snagged in the dorsal. The next day, Saturday, fishing the Butterfish Hole, a huge blue shark was successfully fought, tagged and released.

Pat, spokesman for the **Little Bear** called to say that porgy action is very good for medium and large porgies. On Tuesday, Al Stuart counted 62 porgies in his cooler. Action slowed down a bit over the holiday weekend, attributed to the thousands of boats (a 4 lane highway) in the Gardiner's Island area. Fishing should return to its previous state during the week when everyone goes back to work.

The **Marlin IV** reports great night bluefishing at Block Island. Average catches of 20 to 30 blues per man of fish in the 10 to 17 pound range was reported by Capt. Richie Rade. Day trips, all day fluking, has picked up nicely, with a good keeper ratio.

I joined the morning fluke group on the **Viking Starlite** Sunday which included Patchogue Fishing Club junior member Artie Felice, his mother Marge and friend Bret. Videotape of the pool fish and some of the action will be shown on Fishing Forecast on Friday and Saturday. The pool fish a 5 pounder, was caught by Roberta Meungolo of Brooklyn who was fishing with her family. Most fish were keepers and scene of the action was the North Rips. Capt. Forsberg declared that the night bluefish trips are a veritable "slaughter," with all the blues your arms can take. Cox's Ledge cod is outstanding with good anglers boating 25 to 30 cod per man. Thursday's pool was taken by a 45 pound cod, Friday's by a fish in the 30 pound range. Over 25 hangers were taken (fish over 25 pounds) each trip. A few medium size pollock were part of the catch. Ask for John Robissa and his "secret lure" if you take this trip. Highlighting Thursday's trip was the appearance of a small blue marlin and a swordfish, which could not be baited.

SOUTH FORK

Bunny Cox, who came out of retirement to run the **Harbor Marina** at **Three Mile Harbor**, commented that the fishing in the area is fantastic! Fluke, running to about 7 pounds in weight are taking squid sandeels combo with the top of the tide producing best, although fish were caught on all tides. Fluking is also consistant at Napeague, where average catch is about 20 keepers from 3-5 pounds. Bluefish are all over Gardiner's Bay, with the Ruins a hot spot. Nice porgies were caught during the week at Cedar Point, with humpbacks showing at Gardiner's Island in the Tabaccolot area. A few small weaks were taken along with porgies at Cedar Point, try a high-low rig.

The **Wilhelric II** had a banner fluke

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day on Tuesday fishing between Gardiner's and Constellation Rock. The first fish boated weighed six pounds, was considered a pool winner, until the rest of the anglers hooked up. The pool was a 9½ lb. doormat. Many fish in the 5-6 lb. range were put into coolers, along with a few 7 and 8 lb. fish. The next day, the big fish moved to an undiscovered spot (as yet), since smaller and fewer were found. Capt. Artie Lach reports that porgies are **red hot**, could not be better! Most fish are in the 1-1½ lb. range with a few jumbo's mixed in. On Saturday, many anglers counted as many as 70 porgies in their buckets!

Blue claw crabs appear to be working up to a great season, judging from the amounts taken this early from east end inlets reports Chris Salb at **Bayview Marine & Tackle** in **Sag Harbor**. A nice porgy catch was made on July 4th by George Lewis and w.t. McDowell. 190 scup in the ¾ to 1½ lb. range. The pair filled up every bucket and cooler in the boat. Location of catch: Cedar Point, outgoing tide, on clam bait. Chris reports good fluking at the Ruins at Gardiner's but closer in fluke averaging 20-40 per boat were caught in Napeague (in the channel) with a good keeper ratio. A few 4 and 5 lb. fish were among the catch.

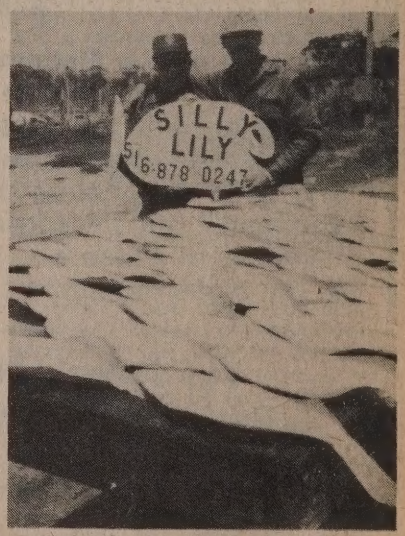
Joe Corr saw a catch of 20 fluke caught in the East Channel at Shinnecock by Bruce McDonald and his friend, and brought into **Sherry & Joe Corr's Best Boatworks** in **Southampton**. Ron Woodward and Jim Squires confined their efforts to bluefish over the weekend, because of sea conditions, returning with a good catch only a few miles offshore.

Anglers checking in with Thom at **Speck's Bait & Tackle** in **Southampton** found porgy action on the slow side in the Peconics, although some were caught at Buoy's 17 and 18, with Sag Harbor producing near the light house and at inside buoys. Fluking at Gardiner's appears to be either very hot, or very cold, however porgy action on the northeast side of Gardiner's Island is getting hotter. Joe Garcia of the Bronx pulled in a super humpback on Friday, 4 lbs. 10 ozs., fishing the incoming tide. Average catch however, has been a couple of dozen porgies in the 1-1½ lb. range. In Shinnecock, Thom suggests fluking at the East Channel or the Canal, where fluke are hitting even when the locks are open. Small b lues (1 lb.) are still solid in Shinnecock Bay, with a few large choppers (10-12 lbs.) at the jetties. Blackfishing is still good at the jetties. Offshore, bluefish are solid up to 160 feet of water. White marlin were sighted, but not hooked, as close in as 110 feet of water. However some bluefin and yellowfin were brought in over the weekend.

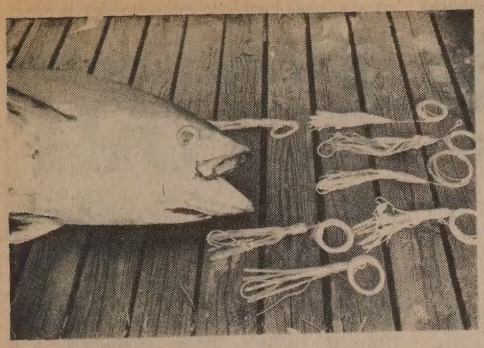
Larry Mangarillo reported some flounder action Shinnecock Bay over the weekend. Eric Erca caught 41 flatties, fishing Buoy 19, while a rental skiff found his flounder at the Basket. Fluke are still plentiful, while bluefish, some to 3 lbs. were caught in the bay by Larry LaValia on Saturday. The catch causing the most conversation at **Corr's Mariners Cove** in **Hampton Bays**, however, was made by Bob Dane "Butcher Boy" who was fishing with Jack Petrick and Alex Evrieon on Bob's 19 foot Mako on July 5th. The group started out to catch a batch of blues, setting up a chum slick in 150 feet of water, southeast of the Shinnecock Inlet. What was supposed to be a leisurly day of fishing (they only left the dock at 10:30 a.m.) turned out to be a fisherman's dream! A white marlin snatched a bluefish bait, and after a spectacular battle, the fish topped the scales at 78 lbs. Continuing with the bluefish trip, the group saw a thresher, baited the fish with a shark rod (fortunately on the boat) and after a 1½ hour battle, gaffed a 504 lb. thresher! The tail of the thresher, all 7 feet 7 inches of it, is on display at the marina. Larry Mangarillo reported that the steaks were delicious!

Yellowfin tuna were found and caught on the charterboat, **M & M's** over the weekend.

On Tuesday, Capt. Don VanDe-Water fished in 150 feet of water southwest of Shinnecock Inlet where these bluesharks, top weight, 150 lbs. were caught by John Gladys and his group on the **Dutch Treat**. For a change of pace, capt. Van DeWater fished on his brothers boat, berthed in the Great South Bay, and with Larry Mahr and his friends, caught a 55 lb. white marlin plus a 90 lb. mako on Friday fishing 150 ft. of water southeast of Fire Island Inlet.



Matt and John Viol returned to Silly Lily Fishing Station in East Moriches with this outstanding catch of fluke to 3 lbs. on June 19th. The pair did their fishing near buoy 41.



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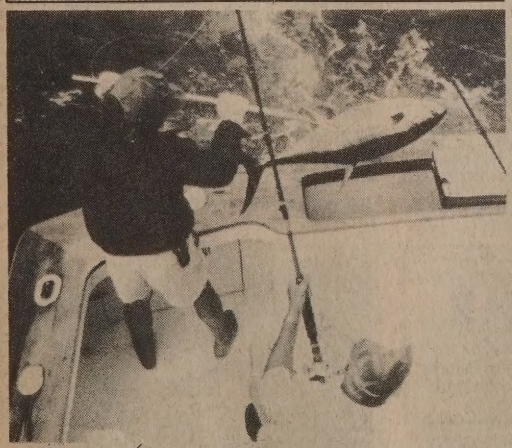

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South Shore REPORT
with Fred Golofaro

Some good offshore action highlighted the long holiday weekend though lumpy seas thwarted the efforts of some smaller boatmen. Yellowfin tuna accommodated a small fleet of boats working the 30 fathom line southeast of Moriches and Fire Island Inlets. The canyon had lively yellowfin action as well, with bigger fish the rule here. There were also a fair number of bigeyes among the yellowfins as bonus to those making the long run.

Bluefishing remained solid in the vicinity of the Patchogue Grounds with boats doing a bang up job, most days and nights.

Inside the bays, Moriches continues to hold its edge over the west although there was a showing of some larger fluke (several 4-7 pounders were reported) from Fire Island Inlet this past weekend.

MORICHES BAY & INLET

Gary Grunseich of **Silly Lily Fishing Station** in East Moriches reported very good fluking during the week with somewhat of a slowdown on the weekend. Best action has been from buoys 38 through 41 into Hart Cove. Spearing or sand eel and squid combos working best 3 hours before and after high water. On Wednesday, Bill Sztorc and Charlie Fousek racked up a score of 47 keepers. Most of thei fish fell into the 14 to 17 inch range. On Sunday a quartet of anglerettes proved that flounder fishing in the area remains a very worthwhile endeavor. Debby Johnson, Vickie Pisciotta, Carol Garofalo and Elaine Malvino put away 180 flounder between 1/2 and 1½ lbs. on blood

Mike Contessa and friends with snowshoe flounder up to 3.6 lbs. taken at Montauk aboard the charter boat, "Caprice."

worms just south of buoy 30. All of the action took place on incoming water. Gary added that plenty of small bluefish, most in the 1 to 2 lb. range continue to roam the bay.

Over at **L&M Marine** in East Moriches, Larry Dallaire reported both good fluke and flounder activity over this past week. He named buoys 36 and 39 for both species. Sand eel and squid combos have been accounting for the best fluke scores. Largest summer flattie for the weekend was a 4 lber. taken on Sunday.

GREAT SOUTH BAY/ FIRE ISLAND INLET

Reports of good steady fluking continue to come in from Moriches Bay, according to Paul Graniello of **J&J Tackle** in Patchogue. Some good flounder catches also being reported from there as well. Locally, small bluefish have arrived in the Bellport-East Patchogue area. Best action has been in the early AM and during the evening hours on small metal lures or small surface popping plugs. Crabbing has been just unbelievable from the docks as well as in the boats. It's been the best crabbing in many a year around these parts. Snappers are at the local docks but still very small. Bluefishing remains solid on the Patchogue Grounds with most of the fish being taken falling into the 8-15 lb. class. Private boatmen have been both trolling and jigging the fish. The most impressive fish weighed over the weekend was a north shore import. Pat Tresehl of Medford returned from the Port Jeff area with an 8½ lb. doormat fluke on Saturday.

Over at **J&R Sports Center** in Oakdale, Al Colban reported that the fluke fishing was hurting somewhat over the long weekend. He mentioned the pick of fish near the inlet and back in the state channel between Babylon and Amityville. The bay continues to be plagued by an algae bloom, although the condition continues to improve. Blues in the 5-6 lb. class were jigged and trolled near the bell buoy while bigger blues, up to 14 lbs. provided steady action on the Patchogue Grounds. Al relayed word of some yellowfin and bigeye tuna action at the canyon. One local skipper returned from the Hudson Canyon with two bigeyes, 6 yellowfins and a mess of albacore.

Lisa Cioffi, reported from **Pepe's Tackle Shop** in East Islip told of a 264 lb mako taken by Greg Ownes on Friday. The big fish grabbed a whole mackerel bait fished in 165 ft. of water south of FI Inlet. Bluefishing was good outside of FII with the best action located in 90 ft. of water southeast and in the vicinity of the Patchogue Grounds in particular. Fluke fishing has been tough for most but some boatmen managed a pretty fair pick at the inlet in recent days.

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Janie Pagano shows off the 3 lb. 14 oz. flattie she caught in the Freeport area aboard the Codfather, back on May 25.

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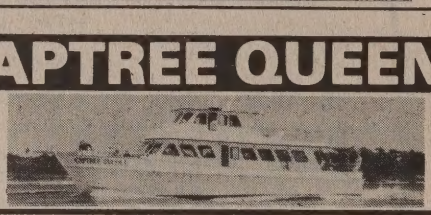

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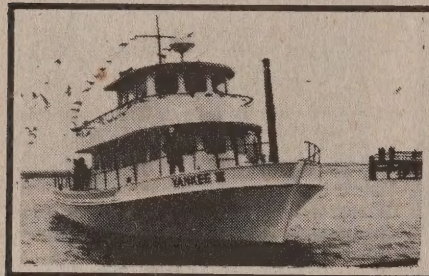

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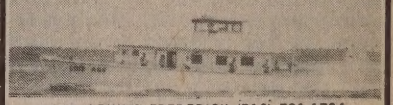

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Small snappers are now being taken at local docks according to area youngsters. But most are still too small to keep.

Carl Miller of **Smokeys Tackle Shop** in Bay Shore reports that the best fluking remains outside the inlet on incoming water when seas are calm. Carl did note however that the bay is clearing up somewhat. Plenty of small blues up to 3 lbs. are at the inlet. One boat on Friday put away 67 of them using 007 jigs. Very small snappers being taken at the docks and there are some crabs as well. Offshore, several boatmen continue to report large concentrations of yellowfin tuna along the 30 fathom line of the compass rose. There was some white marlin activity reported in 180 ft. of water south southeast of the inlet on Thursday though none were landed. Good action with yellowfin tuna and some bigeyes at the canyon on Thursday. For sinker bouncers, still some real nice sea bass being taken on the FI Ocean reef.

Captain George Tweedy of the Captree open boat **Captain Scotty 3** reported excellent bluefishing day and night with the only tough day of the long weekend being Saturday when strong winds and rough seas made fishing extremely difficult. Daytime action is on diamond jigs, while nights see all the fish being taken on bait. Fish range anywhere from 5 to 15 lbs. with all the action taking place south of Patchogue. Skipper reminded that the boat's bluefish derby leader is a 16¾ lb. chopper, He added that the pot is now in excess of $500 and climbing.

Captain Charlie Kennedy of the Captree open boat **Captain Joseph II** reported a slow pick on fluke all week, but did not that a few larger fluke made a showing. His best of the weekend was a 5 lber. taken on Saturday by Irvina Jamel. Of the night bluefishing, the skipper labeled the action very good on the Patchogue Grounds. A couple of scores recorded by fares over the weekend provided ample evidence of the fishing. On Thursday, Paul Commesso and Mike Fallacara wrapped up a score of 58 blues including a 17 lb. pool winner. Roland May single handedly put away 26 of the choppers. On Sunday night's trip, Kevin Sheehan, Vinnie Yogurt and David Eichera wrapped up a score of 95 blues. The three are all employess of ICL Labs.

Over at **Captree Bait and Tackle**, Bobby Sprenger reported weighing a 7 lb. fluke on Sunday for Charles Hollander of Lindenhurst. Charles took the big flattie aboard the open boat **Captain Rod.** He spoke of excellent bluefishing day and night with fish running up to 15 lbs. He added that an occasional fluke continues to be picked from the Captree piers. He was more impressed with the excelent flounder action tha occurred over this past weekend from the Jones Beach fishing piers. Worms accounted for the best scores there.

From **Augie's Tackle Shop** in Babylon, Tom Healy reported a showing of some fluke back in the bay in Snake Hill and Dickerson channels. One out of 4 of the fish are keepers. Some days this week saw a fairly steady pick of fluke between the bridge and the inlet and particularly along the Oak Beach bar. Best bluefishing is being found in 50-90 ft. of water and beyond by jiggers and trollers. Also, the first bonito were reported on the weekend from amongst the bluefish fleet. There has been some very good crabbing underway at the village dock and snappers are around but small. On Saturday, Ed Torkilson of the charter boat **Tork I** found 19 blues to 12 lbs. for John Serafini and friends. Offshore, there's some good yellowfin action between 150-160 ft. of water southeast of the inlet. Most were in the 25-35 lb. range though Phil Bruckner aboard his Skipper did find an 80 lber. Among the better tuna scores were the 25 yellowfins racked up aboard the Blue Water on Thursday. Sal Palacino aboard his Queen Bess also had a mess of yellowfins. The canyon as hot over the long weekend. Among the Babylon boats cashing in on the bigeyes and yellowfins were the Jen-S, Centurion, Mustache, Libra and the Wild Turkey. The Babylon TUna Club held

their interclub shark contest over the weekend. By far the most outstanding entry was the winning 285 lb. mako taken by John Raguso abord his Marcee Jay. The big mako was taken i 120 ft or water, not far from the wreck of the Yankee. Assisting John were Ted Bingham and Bob Otto who provided the finishing touches to the still green shark at boatside.

Speaking from **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle** Mike Andreani reported weighing another fish for Bill Piazza. On Friday morning Bill used a live bunker at the inlet to fool a 16 lb. striper. On Sunday Mike looked over a catch of 18 fluke taken aboard the private boat Danielle on incoming water near the Sore Thumb. The crew reported seeing 2 large weakfish and a striper taken by liveliners in the same area. Flounder fishing remains surprisingly good in the Sore Thumb pocket and many boatmen are finding this an alternative to generally picky fluking. Small blues at the inlet on 007 jigs and mini umbrella rigs with bigger fish and steadier action out of the Patchogue Grounds. Good crabbing at Wellwood Avenue dock and Tanner Park with some of the crabs measurin up to 17 inches from claw to claw. Mike noted that there are loads of bunker in the local canals for anyone looking to do some livelining.

Ralph Angelillo of **Z Crab Tackle** in Copiague looked over a catch of monster blues in the 15-18 lb. class made by Steve Sisson while sharking in 130 ft. of water on Thursday. Speaking of sharks, Phil Milani caught and released 4 blue sharks and 4 browns in 150 feet of water at midweek. On Thurday, Barry Turano had both blue and brown sharks near the Virginia but the big excitement of the day was an aborted battle with an estimated 4-500 l.b. giant tuna. Ralph found some time on Wednesday to take 4 weaks from 4 to 8 lb. on red jelly worms near the WR buoy and near Ocean Beach. He too spoke of good floundering at the Thumb and suspected it would be a wiser choice than fluking for many boatmen. Lots of small stripers being plugged in the state channel west of Amityville. Excellent crabbing off the Wellwood Ave. dock and some small snappers starting to make an appearance.

Speaking from **Bob's Bait and Tackle** in Amity Harbor, Bob Vitale spoke of plenty of small blues at the inlet on umbrella rigs and 007 jigs. Five to 15 lb. choppers are in 70 to 80 ft. of water on out for trollers and jiggers. Fluke fishing has been a pick in the State Channel to Gilgo and there are good numbers of blue claws being taken from local docks. Snappers have arrived but are still too small to really bother with. On Saturday John Grubel drifted a squid and killy combo for a fluke aboard his J-j. Instead an 8½ lb weak gobbled the offering in the vicinity of the Lindenhurst Cut. Also, there was talk of some good yellowfin tuna action in 160 ft. of water well to the east of Fire Island on the weekend.

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From **Edelman's** in Farmingdale, Frank Pristera reported excellent yellowfin tuna action on the 400 line over the weekend. He also reported a nice catch of 10 to 16 lb. blues for Frank Tavato and his son Sal on Friday. The pair were intent on sharks in the 140 ft. depths but settled for the blues. On the return trip, they encountered a 400 lb. class mako basking on the surface. Unfortunately the fish refused all attempts at being baited. As for the local fluke fishing, Frank labeled it as still not up to par. Results of the South Shore Fishing Association contest held last weekend were Fred Walters—10 lb. bluefish, Bob Lamonte—168 lb. blue shark, Mike Grasso—2.12 lb. fluke and Mike again, with a 3.6 lb. weakfish. Each of the three winners received a $50 gift certificate from Edelman's.

West End REPORT

with Stu Miller

Bluefishing this week has been dynamite for jiggers, trollers and those using bait. Fluking was good at the very beginning of the week but seemed to nosedive thereafter right through the weekend for reasons known only to the fluke themselves. Fluke were caught, however, and those brought up were mostly keepers. There are still big chunky flounder to be had in good numbers in the deeper spots such as the bridges. Good numbers of mako shark are being taken and yellowfin tuna action has become fairly dependable.

WEST END BAYS/ JONE'S INLET

Sailing out of Seaford the open boat **Chinco III** had fluke catches of up to 11 keepers per man early in the week through Tuesday. The skipper said Wednesday, Thursday and Friday "were the worst days we had this year." Saturday's catches bounced back as did Sunday's. There were many catches of 5 keepers, 6 keepers with 7 being the high hook number. All fares had fish on the weekend said Brian. Best areas were Merrick Bay, Haunts Creek and just west of the Wantagh Bridges. Spearing and belly worked best, followed by killies.

From **Wanser's Tackle** we hear that fluke action slowed down considerably this past week but those caught were mostly keepers with best action at Goose and Haunts Creeks and Wansers Cut. Lon said area that had a

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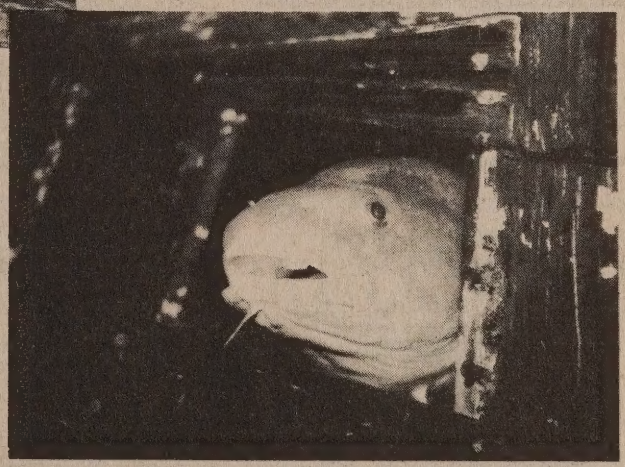

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good strong tidal flow or rip were best. Top tempters were squid and sand eels. Lots of flounder in the deeper holes, best around the 3rd Wantagh, Big M and off SHort Beach CG. Some weakfish in Jones Inlet at night on live or chunk bunker. Also good for the night weaks were the Big M, 3rd Wantagh and Fl Inlet. Good blues and bass in the bay. Bass being chummed on bellies at the 3rd Wantagh at night with one customer scoring with 15 good fish in one trip. Bluefishing a good item at Cholera, 3 Sisters and Patchogue on bait and diamonds. Casters are having good bluefish action and occasional weaks off the jetties and beaches, while bccs are starting and there are small snappers in the canal with them.

Word out of **Captain Eddie's Fishing Station** is of really nice fat flounder from 1½ lbs. and up being taken at Black Banks on worms and lots of chum. Though fluking has been slow, on Saturday Don Geraci nailed 1 14 keepers fluke to 6.15 lbs. fishing Squaw Island Saturday on spearing and sand eels. A few bccs in the canals and cocktail blues to 2½ lbs. shooting all around the bridges through the inlets.

We hear from **Causeway tackle** in Wantagh of anywhere from good to super great bluefishing from Jones Inlet to the R2 buoy offshore. These are mostly 3 to 5 lbers with an odd weak thrown in. Best catches have been A117s and 007s with red tubes and also red and green umbrellas. Fluking has been fair with bigger fish in the back in areas such as Merrick Bay, Squaw Island and bulkhead drain. Mike weighed in a 7 lber taken from Squaw. Ebb tide seems to be best. Floundering has been fair on the ebb in State Channel, at the Big M and at the 3rd Wantagh along with Haunts creek. A few bccs in the Seaford canal and tiny snappers showing.

WE hear from Jimmy at **Nick's Fishing Station** in Merrick says fluking has been only fair this week with the area off the Golf Course the best bet. Nick's Point Tuna Club won the Charvin Shark Tournament Saturday with a 229 lb. mako caught on the boat Snapshot, captained by John Kalman with angler Don Amendolaro on the rod. The catch was made SE of the Virginia Wreck. A 110 lb. mako was also caught on this boat the same day by George Kumaman. Flounder action has been decent in Swift Creek both tides.

From the charter boat **Captain Gary** we hear of Friday's trip for South Shore Day Camp which had fair AM fluking. Saturday's trip for Ken Primus and pals had excellent floundering to the tune of 300 fish with high hook honors to Pat Piarillo with 46. Big Eddie took the pool with a 2½ lb. flounder. Saturday night's bluefish trip had folks at the rail in really rough weather for the Cory Winograd group while on Sunday Young Kim and buddies had good flounder with YK high hook and pool winner with 49 fish including a 2¾ lber.

A call from charter boat **Corsair** told of Saturday's trip for the Michelle Paduano group which fluked in local back bays and found slow going, fares having to work hard for their fish which were taken to 3 lbs. Most fish were keepers however, with squid and sand eels working best. Sunday's trip for the Paul Gathmann group of Woodhaven jigged blues to 11 lbs. and had a fair day's action working from Cholera to the Sisters.

Aboard the charter boat **Lady J III** this week Capt. Pat noted the fluking slowed but were mostly over 14 inches with action local and a lot of moves necessary. Monday's trip was for the Anthony Battista group of Carmel, NY. Tuesday it was jigging blues for an Ossining, NY party led by Jack Scarduzzio. This was 2 miles south of Jones, then east off the Jones tower in

High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables: To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion table. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that area station above. Example: Shinnecock Inlet . . . −0 50 is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." −0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	BREAKWATER HARBOR AM	BREAKWATER HARBOR PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGEPORT AM	BRIDGEPORT PM	NEWPORT AM	NEWPORT PM	DATE
THURS.	3:05	3:40	4:00	4:55	3:45	4:30	5:10	5:40	7:40	8:00	6:50	7:15	3:10	3:45	7/11
FRI.	4:00	4:30	4:55	5:25	4:45	5:20	6:05	6:30	8:35	8:50	7:45	8:05	4:05	4:40	7/12
SAT.	5:00	5:30	5:45	6:15	5:40	6:10	6:55	7:10	9:25	9:30	8:35	8:55	5:00	5:25	7/13
SUN.	5:55	6:15	6:35	7:05	6:40	7:00	7:40	7:50	10:15	10:05	9:30	9:40	5:50	6:10	7/14
MON.	6:45	7:00	7:25	7:50	7:30	7:40	8:25	8:30	10:55	10:35	10:15	10:25	6:40	6:55	7/15
TUES.	7:30	7:45	8:15	8:35	8:15	8:25	9:05	9:10	11:25	11:05	11:00	11:05	7:25	7:40	7/16
WED.	8:15	8:25	9:00	9:20	8:55	9:00	9:45	9:50	11:55	11:40	11:40	11:50	8:05	8:25	7/17
THURS.	9:00	9:05	9:40	10:00	9:40	9:40	10:30	10:30	—	12:20	—	12:20	8:50	9:10	7/18

On Sandy Hook

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	−0 01
Red Bank, Navesink River	+1 48
Long Branch	−0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	−0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	−0 12
Seaside Park	−0 33
Mantoloking bridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	−0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	−0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	−0 26
Great Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 44
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNSENDS INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	−0 02
Rehobeth Beach	−0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 41
SHINNECOCK INLET	−0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	−0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Hart's Cove	+1 30
Pontunk Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0 38
Democrat Point	−0 38
Coast Guard Station	−0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	−0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	0 00
Beach Channel Bridge	+0 38
J.F.K. Airport	+0 26

On Bridgeport

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	+0 08
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Hbr. entrance	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	+0 05
Herod Point	−0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 05
Horton Point	−0 20
Truman Beach	−0 42
Falkner Island	−0 13
Sachem Head	−0 10
Branford Harbor	−0 07
New Haven Harbor entrance	−0 08
Milford Harbor	−0 07
Stratford, Housatonic River	+0 27
Shelton, Housatonic River	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor entrance	−0 03
Saugatuck River entrance	−0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	−0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On New London

Orient	+0 36
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Three Mi. Hbr., Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land, Napeague Bay	−0 14
Montauk Inlet	−0 25
Montauk Point, north side	−1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington, Fishers Is. Sound	−0 33
Noank, Mystic River ent.	−0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove entrance	−0 01
Norwich	+0 12
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook Jetty	+1 10
Lyme, highway bridge	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higganum Creek	+2 54

On Willets Point

Little Neck Bay	−0 10
Execution Light	0 06
Manhasset Bay	−0 01
Hempstead Harbor	−0 11
City Island	−0 03
Rye Beach	−0 28
Port Chester	−0 09
Mamaroneck	−0 08
New Rochelle	−0 24
Davids Island	−0 02

On Breakwater Harbor

CAPE MAY POINT	−0 10
Miami Beach	+0 17
East Pt., Maurice River Cove	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	−0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River entrance	+0 33

On New York

Jersey City	+0 07
George Washington Bridge	+0 46
Spuyten Duyvil, W/RR bridge	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburgh	+3 42

On Newport

Sakonnet	−1 10
Tiverton (between bridges)	+0 21
Beavertail Point	−0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Point	+1 10
Bristol	+1 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayatt Point	+0 12
Pawtucket, Seekonk River	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	−0 08
Point Judith Hbr. of Refuge	−0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Block Island (Old Harbor)	−0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

DAY / DATE:		RISE:	SET:
THU.	7/11	5:34	8:36
FRI.	7/12	5:35	8:36
SAT.	7/13	5:36	8:35
SUN.	7/14	5:36	8:35
MON.	7/15	5:37	8:34
TUE.	7/16	5:37	8:34
WED.	7/17	5:38	8:33

Moonrise/Moonset

DAY / DATE:		RISE:	SET:
THU.	7/11	1:02AM	2:50PM
FRI.	7/12	1:25AM	3:52PM
SAT.	7/13	1:52AM	4:55PM
SUN.	7/14	2:24AM	5:58PM
MON.	7/15	3:03AM	6:59PM
TUE.	7/16	3:52AM	7:55PM
WED.	7/17	4:50AM	8:44PM

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.
7/17	7/24	7/2	7/10

The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES

The schedule of solunar periods below will help plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during the time when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold typeface. The minor periods are shorter in duration and the lighter typeface.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs.	12:40	**6:45**	12:55	**7:05**
Fri.	1:20	**7:20**	1:30	**7:40**
Sat.	1:55	**8:00**	2:10	**8:25**
Sun.	2:40	**8:45**	2:55	**9:10**
Mon.	3:25	**9:30**	3:40	**10:00**
Tues.	4:15	**10:20**	4:30	**10:50**
Wed.	5:05	**11:10**	5:20	**11:40**
Thurs.	5:55	—	6:20	**12:10**

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40 to 50 ft. of water. Wednesday it was fluke for Twin Oaks Day Camp of Freeport and Friday Coleman County Day Camp, Merrick. Saturday's fluking was for Ken Klimas group and Sunday a Valley Stream charter for Coast Dispatch.

From **Freeport Boatmens Association** Bob tells of very good bluefishing for trollers, jiggers and chunkers working the Sisters and 17. Day time have been mainly to Cholera with big fish on bait. Fluking has been sporadic in Jones Inlet and off the beaches with the numbers falling way off in th elatter part of the week. Best fluking and floundering has been in the back in Swift and Reynolds with some biggies taken. Offshore has been the scene of some shark action and yft activity between the NOAA buoy and the Texas Tower.

A brief message left on our answering machine from the charter boat **Apus** said that except for Sunday, he has been having excellent mako actiity during this past week and the bluefish catches have been excellent as well.

The word from **Lou's Fishing Station** tells of the result of the 10th annual Charvin Open Shark Tournament with 81 boats participating and the three winners all makos. First place with 226 lb. mako, was John Kalman, of Nick Pt. Tuna Club taking first prize of $6,075. 2nd prize of $2,030 went to a 218 lb. mako caught on the boat Paradise, captained by Dr. Steve Shainoff with rod man Irnie Simon, East Bay Anglers. 3rd place went to a 209 lb. mako, taken by Rich

Chessler on the Betty Boop. Other notable sharks such as a 200 lb. dusky and a 158 lb. blue shark were taken. Blues have been very good to excellent offshore. Thirty to 40 lb. class yft in 130-140 ft. of water. Lou weighed in a 48 lb. white marlin during the week. From the **Captain Andy II** we hear of continued very good flounder catches on big fish from 3/4 to 4 lbs. Pool fish have in the 2½ lb. class, with all action local, such as Short Beach Cg, Jones Beach Piers and Haunts Creek. Andy says the fish are all over in the deep holes and he's staying with the flounder since they are so good.

Word from Capt. Richie Kessinger of the **STARSTREAM II** is of fair to very good bluefishing days from 3 Sisters to 17 on diamond jigs. Consistency is the name of the game. Bluefish high hook for the week has been 60 in the early part of the week with catches 30 a man common, fish 3 to 6 lbs., with an occasional 12 lber. Nights have been a little slower due to weather conditions, with the boat fishing the same areas.

Captain Tony of the **Miss Freeport II** tells of excellent night blues fishing inshore of Cholera just 1 hr 15 mins. from the dock, with fish running to 14 lbs. on bait and chum. Catches were consistent during the week with the decent weather.

captain Frank of **Wet and Wild Charters** told of Saturday's charter to Hudson Canyon taking 5 yellowfin tuna, 1 bonito and 1 mako weighing 350-400 lbs., which followed the fresh tuna fillet dragged behind the boat, but wouldn't take it.

Moving over to Pt. Lookout the **Captain Al** tells of super fabulous bluefishing all week with consistency of catches being the name of the game. Al said he's averaging 1,000 fish per day trip all week long for groups of 20-35 passengers. An example he gave was Sunday's trip for 28 fares on which Don Jones of Levittown had 57, Ralph Martinez, 55 (Ralph had 129 total in 3 trips this week), Ramon Cartagena of Bklyn. with 48 and 55 on another trip and Audian Smith of Far Rockaway with 45. These are all 4-10 lbers. on diamonds. The night trips have been good depending on conditions and there had been several bad weather nights this week. The boat has been fishing Cholera and the Jersey side.

A call from Capt. Dennis of the **Marie III** spoke of Friday's bluefish trip for the Charles Smith group fishing off Long Branch for 2-5 lbers. with the good fishermen getting 15-20 a man and the low hookers 5-10 a man. Eight year old Greg Smith had 15. They fished the Sisters in the afternoon with a slow pick on 6-8 slbers. Saturday's trip for Ralph Rocco and party had excellent flounder in the AM on the flood fishing off Short Beach, Swift and Big M. Fish ran 1-1½ lbs. High hooks were in the 20s and a 2 lber. took the pool, worm and clam best. It was flounder again Sunday for the Joe Prinzavalli party. Seven yr. old Chris had 15 flounder

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while Joe had 20. Marty Hacker took the pool with a 2 lb. 4 oz. flattie. A 2 lb. 6 oz. flounder was caught by J.P. Sr. while John Azzopardi was high hook with 29. Dennis says he has a few choice August bluefish dates available.

Captain Ronnie of the **Miss Point Lookout** is happy to announce that old blood and guts Capt. Bobby Nagy will be running the 7PM bluefish trips every night. On the fluke side, catches were off considerably this past week but some days were passable. On Saturdays PM trip, George a regular had a 5½ lb. pool winner. High hooks all week have generally been 4-5 fish. Night blues early in the week were very good.

Eileen at **Ed's Fishing Station** said while fluking was off this weekend the flounder held up great. Beau Pukisz and Richie Ruzicka of Astoria nailed 73 flounder in Reynolds and at the Jones Beach Piers on sand and bloods and mussel chum, fish to 1½ lbs. JR and son from Uniondale accounted for 30 flounder taken off Short Beach fish to 2 lbs. on sands and bloods. A lot of small blues all over Reynolds and Sloop and at the bridges on bait and small tins and good mixed bags on bait off the jetties.

Word out of **Scotty's Fishing Station** is of excellent flounder fishing Wednesday through Sunday, best action at the Big M and Reynolds. Fluke still being taken in Reynolds and Jones Inlet area with numbers down for this past week. Blues being trolled and drifted in Jones Inlet. It was 40 lb. mako for Joe McCabe of the Point Lookout Fishing Club along with a catch of large blues chummed from Cholera to 90 ft. of water.

Out of Island Park Capt. Clem of the **Commodore** told of an excellent day on fluke Friday with over 300

keepers taken off Riis and at Ambrose. Things were also good there the day before in the same area. Saturday saw Don Thompson nd John Glass with 13 keeper fluke apiece. Keeper ratio has been about 70 percent. Sunday's action was okay but off a little. Still lots of action around.

At **Long Beach Sports Marina**, Bernie called the fluking fair in western Reynolds Channel with rental skiffs averaging 5-10 keepers per boat with twice that number of midgets. Killies have been best and the hottest action has been between buoys 7 anbd 9. 18 keepers to 3 lbs. were managed by Ralph Artusa and Randy Peters. Bay blues all through Reynolds with casters and skiffs making nice catches with the best rig being a leadhead with one spearing hooked through the eyes. Steve Ferigo nailed 26 blues off the Magnolia Pier Sunday while Felix and Buzz bailed 172 flounder to 2 lbs. working between the ABB and Cedarhurst Yacht Club. Blackfishing has been slow while some bass and blues have been livelined at the ABB.

Beckmann's Tackle in Lynbrook noted the bccs are starting in local creeks, namely the one in Oceansdie near Petes Clam Bar. Fluking has been very slow with western Reynolds everyones best bet. The shining light has been flounder which are being taken with heavy chumming at the bridges.

Speaking to **Reynolds Reef Fishing Station** in Atlantic Beach your reported was saddened to learn of the passing of Al who had been running the station for the last several years. The report we got from Dave was strong on bluefishing with choppers to 16 lbs. mainly at 17 Fathoms. Catches of some fluke to 3 lbs. from the ABB to Debs Inlet. No activity on blackfish and a secondhand report to Dave of a blue marlin of 126 lbs. caught on an umbrella rig.

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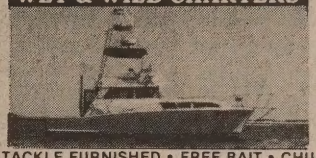

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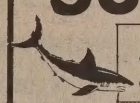

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NEW YORK BIGHT

To the west in Sheepshead Bay Wee Willie at **Mike's Tackle** told of a lot of good fishing with fluke a very good item off the Rockaways, Coney Island flats, inside Breezy Point and Sandy Hook with very few throwbacks. Bluefishing has been very good with fish jigged days to 5 lbs. and baited at night fish 8-10 lbs. Great weakfishing at night said the wee one, chunks during the days with Nordic eels and diamonds with tails at night. Fish running 7-9 lbs. at the Tin Can. The Pilot II loaded up with weakfish one evening this week and the **Shamrock** has been enjoying very good fluke catches.

We hear from Capt. Walt of the **Flamingo III** that the excellent bluefishing continues with no bad days all week. Friday there was a good showing of weaks mixed in under the blues. Fish running 3-6 lbs. with some lunkers. Friday night saw excellent blue action and Saturday night fair action at 17 Fathoms on 8-15 lb. fish. The name of the game is day jigging and night baiting.

From Capt. Tommy of the **Pilot II** we hear of good weakfish on Wednesdays late PM trip with nearly 100 weakies caught by passengers, fish 8-13 lbs. Of course, blues were caught in with them. DUring the day Tom said he's seeing more porgies while sea bass and ling remain quite good. Saturday and Sunday catches were very good on the bottom critters.

A call from the **Elsie K III** told of excellent fluking this past week extending to super excellent on some trips. Capt. Tom said there are a lot of big fish now. Jerry Cohen bagged an 8 lb. 10 oz. doormat, Bogie two 7 lbers. and Frank Millia a 7 lb. 13 oz. doormat. Tom said there were lots of 3-6 lbers. also taken. Working best had been sand eels, spearing and squid. Areas being worked are Ambrose and the Jersey side.

A call from the Staten Island charter boat **Fishfinder** skippered by Capt. Joe Mattioli described excellent bluefishing on 9 to 15 lbers. at 17 Fathoms on bunker and chum. Night action in Raritan Bay has been on blues 3-6 lbs. and weaks to 11 lbs. on chunks and chum.

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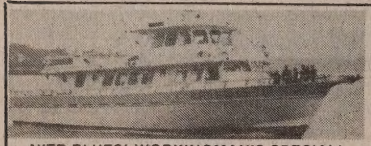

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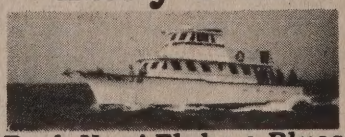

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North Shore REPORT
with Marty Garrell

For those who found the fish, there was some of the best fishing in many years over the past weekend. A huge body of fluke moved into Long Island Sound shallows from Glen Cove to Southold to augment the large body of weakfish already present in the Mid-Island area.

WESTERN SOUND

John Palmieri spoke of a lot 14-18 pound bluefish in the Mamoroneck and Captains Island area and said that **John's Gun** in **New Rochelle** was looking at blues from 8 pounds on up. There are some 20s and 30s mixed with local school bass.

Jack's Bait on **City Island** reported that blackfish and flounder were still holding up with a few porgies around. It's mixed bag fishing of the best kind. Dave DiLuca had a big catch from No Nations, blues to 16.8 and weakfish to 13.8, taken on live bunkers and poppers.

The **Glen Cove Sport Shop** saw lots of fluke in the 3 pound class with many schools of little bluefish from 2-7 pounds in the area. Paul Cohn showed with a large catch of blues and a 12.8 weakfish taken from Matinecock on diamond jigs with tubes.

The **Apache** from **City Island** was catching porgies in sizes bigger than hand sizes and in the medium class with numbers ranging to 12-20 per fare. The fishing was concentrated in the Center Island, Lloyds, and Bayville area. The **North Star** was out on the Norwalk Islands for a mixed bag of porgies, flounder, and tautog. Strong tides were causing problems, but better fishing is expected in the coming week.

NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

The **Prowler** from **Port Jeff** had a lot of weakfish this week just like everyone else, with some fares like Dennis Rod pulling 6 tiderunners to 13 pounds. Fishing was off Mount Sinai on AVA 27s for weaks and in the Northport area for blues around 7 pounds with a lot of 2 pound minis. Billy Collins of the **Ever Ready** in **Huntington** was doing a similar leap job according to George Valentine at

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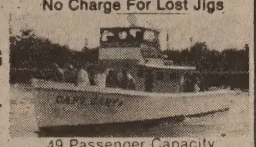
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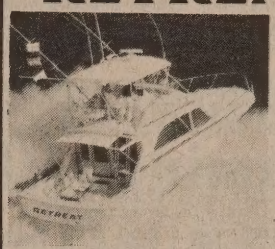
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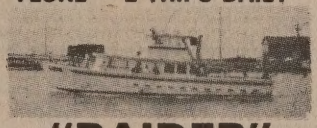
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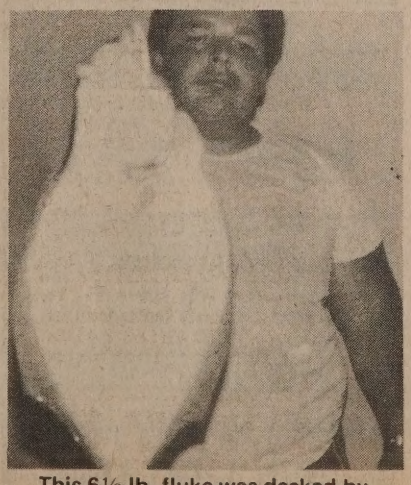

This 6½ lb. fluke was decked by Richie Connally of Ozone Park aboard the Howard Beach open boat, "Capt. Mike."

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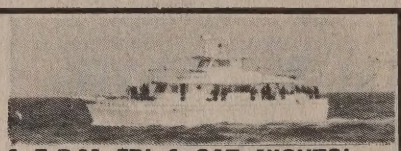

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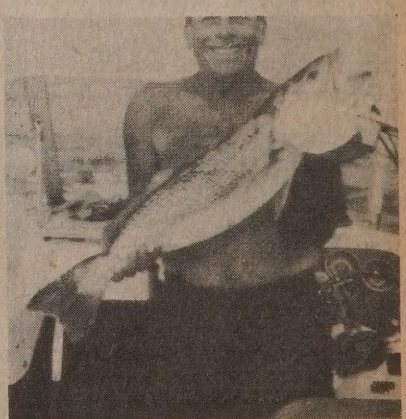
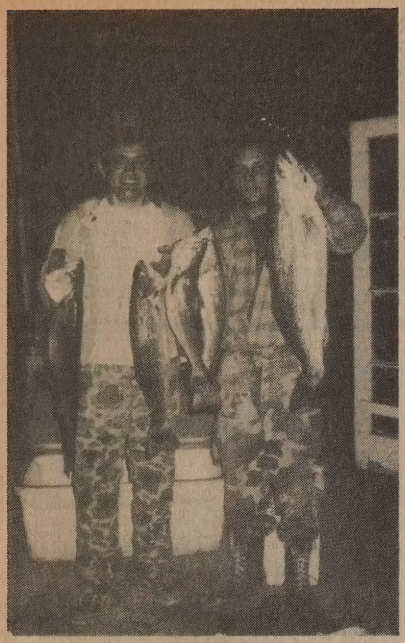


Fisherman subscriber Anthony Trimarco shows the 11 lb. weak he caught in New York Bight at the Tin Can Grounds.



Fisherman subscribers John Nicolella and George Vlaco with five weaks to 11½ lbs. caught during a spring trip to Peconic Bay.

Four Winds. When mugged by boat traffic, Collins would simply move away and find another school of fish later on.

Valentine feels that fish are everywhere and that the scene reminds him of the late 60s for blues, the mid 70s for fluke, and the early 80s for weaks. Jig fishing occurs from the Lilco Dropoff to Sunken Meadow and from Target Rock to Marshall Field. Small boat catches of 10-15 weaks and blues are commonplace, and this action could persist into late August. Best fluking is off Eatons, Lloyds, and Diamond Point. For those who care, there are small-medium porgies off Sand City, Buoys 2 and 4 and Marshall Field with larger scup off Eatons and Makamha.

Huntington Prop had some outstanding catches to report. Jim Proferes had 1 weakfish to 10½ pounds off Eatons on a diamond and dropper and Carl Russo and George Sevace showed up with 26 summer flounder to 5½ pounds on Saturday from Eatons as well.

Tom Bowman at **Bowmans** in **Northport** weighed a 7 pound fluke for Pat Cummins and said that "we had years like this 6 years ago. You go to the beach and see guys catching around dark every night. The fish are in really close at Asharoken." Crackback Rebels in 5½ inch sizes work well on weaks.

The **Caraftis Fishing Station** in **Port Jefferson** had an eyepopping catch of humpback porgies to 2½ pounds taken from Cranes by Mike Stylianou. He filled a pail with scup and added 4 tautog. Chris Schwab had a 15 pound bluefish on a Rebel, and Harry Bestmann jigged a 14½ pound

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slammer off Cranes.

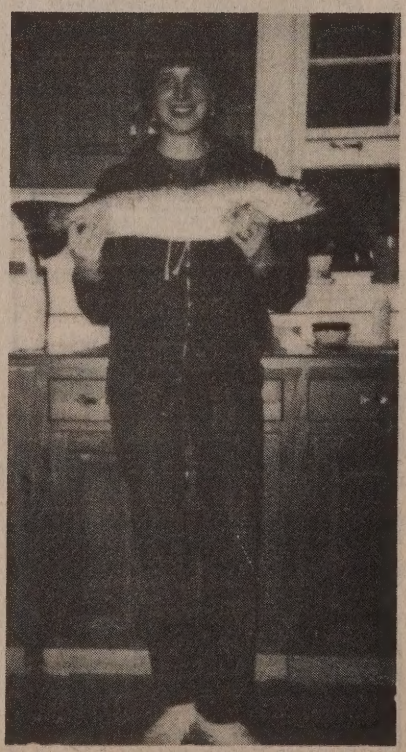
Ralph's in **Mount Sinai** had a few fluke to report in 30-40 feet of water off Cedar Beach and the Pink House. Saturday provided a bonanza of weakfish and 2 hours of non-stop action off Cedar but Sunday was dead. Rocky Point was good for porgies.

The **Rocky Point Fishing Shop** saw hundreds of pounds of fish taken on AVA 27s off Buoys 11 and 9, mostly weaks with some blues. Bluefish are in the 1½ to 3 pound class and fluking is moderate on fish to 4½ pounds.

Last item...Charlie Burke weighed a 13 pound fluke on Sunday at **Huntington Prop**. The doormat was boated off Sand City.

NORTH FORK

Fluking broke open on the Fourth of July in the zone around Mattituck Inlet, Hortons, and points between when a body of 15 to 18 inch fish moved in on the sandeels. High scores were posted by the small boat fleet and, by week's end, the party boats from Orient, the **Nancy Ann II** and the **Nancy Ann** had moved in on the action to the tune of 200 or more fish per boat. The **Captain Bob**, operating out of Mattituck, had the best of the action during most of the weekend, of course, and caught



Suzie Kosowski shows the 8 lb. weak she decked aboard the family boat, Suzie-Q-Too, while drifting a squid strip off of Jessups.

extremely well on both sides of high water.

Richie Jensen told us that Gardiner's fluke were few and far between by week's end, Larry Ciccotto of the **Prime Time III** had a lot of fluke off Trumans Beach on Saturday, 150 fish for 30 with Rose Attansie's pool winning 5.0. When that flattened on Sunday, an attempt at Gardiner's was made and brought only 30 fish for a group of 14. The Raineses also described the Gardiner's fluking as picky for the **Blue Albatross** with weather providing complications. Bill Hunt of the Jackson Heights Anglers won a big pool with an 8 pound tautog.

Art White at the **A.P. White Bait Shop** in **Greenport** said that the porgy fishing down at Gardiner's remained quite good for the **Brand X** and for the **Peconic Star** and that there was some good surf action on local blues.

Warren's in **Aquebogue** has been weighing in a number of bass in the 20s and 30s taken from East End ports, but the best bet is still fluke around Mattituck. These flatfish are not especially large although fish of 4.0 and 5.4 were weighed at the **Mattituck Fishing Station** and one 6 pounder turned up at the **Mattituck Inlet Fishing Station** for Tom Dubrova. Both stations were also reporting weakfish taken on high hooks for those fishing for porgies. Charlie Caraftis weighed one 10

pound tiderunner, but most weaks seem to be in the 4-6 pound class. Curtis Tims is still banging away on the tautog down at Northville with 4 or 5 fish over 6 pounds every weekend.

Captain Martys in **New Suffolk** had "slow but sure" fishing for porgies with catches to 75 scup mixed with a few weakfish. The area from Roses and the Sandslide to Buoy 18 were good, and the zone west of Robins had fish as well. Roses had blowfish. Porgy numbers were also good on the Sound around Coopers Rock.

Ace Cottral at the **Port of Egypt** reported the fishing in the eastern Peconic Bays was, unfortunately, quite poor. Southold and Noyac Bays have been dead for a couple of weeks. The private fleet is sailing around to Trumans or around the old Orient Station for fluke, and the Gut is now getting a play for bass and blues.

Surf REPORT

with Fred Golofaro

weakfish remained at the forefront of the surf action this past week, but to the disappointment of an army of casters who camped along Montauk's Gin Beach and Shagwong, the hot fishing was far removed from Montauk. After a couple of fine weeks, action here petered out to just a drip, according to Johnny Kronuch of **Johnny's Tackle Shop** in Montauk. A stray weak or bass marked the extent of the action for most of this past week and weekend. Joe Bragan did manage a 13 lb. striper on Sunday night for a lot of hours in the suds. John noted that a couple of small blues are being picked along the south side but there's been no consistency to the fishing.

Weakfish provided fine action for many north shore casters this past week. The best of the action seemed to be spread along the beaches from Port Jefferson, through Smithtown Bay and up through Lloyd Neck. George Valentine of **Four Winds Tackle** in Huntington reported that one trio of surfmen fishing Caumsett in Saturday evening's downpour put away 15 weaks to 10 lbs. in less than an hour's time. Eel worms, jointed Rebels, hellcats and small Needlefish have been accounting for good numbers of weaks along area beaches, particularly on night tides. There are plenty of small blues in the 2-4 lb. range spread along the same beaches as well with most of this fishing taking place mornings and evenings. Another trio of casters showed off a catch of 8 weaks from 6 to 10 lbs. taken Sunday morning in the Caumsett

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Twelve-year-old Steve Virostek with one of his first surf caught blues. Just shy of 14 lbs., the big chopper was taken near Democrat Pt. on a popping plug. Subscriber photo.

area. Scott Letizia, Steve Grabo and Jorge Adamas told Tom Healy of **Augie's Tackle Shop** in Babylon that they took the fish on 007 jig and tube combos as well as Bridgeport Wobble Eels.

There was also a flurry of weakfish activity at Cedar Beach inside Fl Inlet this past week. Morning tides saw some big weaks riding herd on bunker schools during the early morning hours on several occasions. On Thursday morning, Steve Petri Jr used freshly snagged bunker to put away 4 big tiderunners. Bob Vitale of **Bob's Bait and Tackle** in AMity Harbor, who was one of those to relay word of this activity reminded that he now has a full selection of Musso Super Strike Needlefish and Charlie Graves Tins in stock. .

Nearby Ralph Angelillo of **Z Crab Tackle** in Copiague relayed word of a pair of 20 lb. class stripers and several big weaks taken at Cedar Friday morning on bunker.

Bob Turturello of **Causeway Bait and Tackle** in Wantagh reported small blues in and out of the surf at West

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End Jones Beach in the early morning and evening hours. Small tins are accounting for most of the action. A few weaks being picked locally on bunker chunks and he, too, relayed word of a few bass and weaks falling to bunker in Fire Island inlet late last week.

Clay Hardman and Tom Schilichter both Great South Bay Anglers Club members, used 5½ inch Rebels to take 6 stripers from shorts on up to 12 lbs. last Wednesday night. The pair worked the east side of Shinnecock Inlet.

The east side of Moriches inlet has had its quota of small bluefish according to Paul Graniello of **J&J Tackle** in Patchogue. Dave Hassel scored well with the 1-3 lb. choppers several evenings this past week using small tins and Red Gill teasers. Also told of dropping a big weak at the rocks. Paul put Ozzie Von Helmond on the phone. Earlier Monday morning, Ozzie had scored with blues to 8 lbs. before daybreak from a nearby north shore beach. After daybreak, the Patchogue Fishing Club member reported acres of smaller blues in the 3-4 lb. blues on the surface.

Over at **Rocky Point Fishing Stop** Stan Hentschel reported plenty of small blues in and out along Brookhaven town beaches. There's also been an occasional weakfish taken locally. Best bass action has been just at the crack of dawn along beaches from Shoreham to Port Jefferson.

Freshwater REPORT
with Tom Schlichter

A solid week for freshwater anglers with especially strong showings of largemouth bass, carp and catfish. Trout fishing remains good in Connetquot State Park, but a little on the slow side everywhere else. Panfish are plentiful and responsive on most of the Island's waters and a few pickerel even managed to put in an appearance this week.

From **Beckmann's Bait and Tackle** in Lynbrook, Charlie Beckmann informs us that Julius Althaus checked in a 3.75 pound largemouth bass which he took on a Cotton Cordell plug at Hempstead Lake. Charlie also mentioned that a couple of anglers fishing in a small pond off Peninsula Blvd. took a total of five bass and forty nice catfish on worm baits.

Mike Nicolletti of **Causeway Bait and Tackle** in Wantagh, gave us a call Saturday afternoon to report a fantastic week of fishng for John "Duckboat" Spoehr. John worked the waters of upstate Green County where, in five days of fishing, he caught and released more than 1100 bass! The fish ranged from shorts to 18 inches and were receptive to both artificials and nightcrawler baits. Of more local interest, Pat Ciques used a black, six inch jellyworm to separate a 5 pound largemouth from the waters of Twin Lake in Wantagh. Mike added that quite a few small bass and panfish are taking nightcrawler baits in the local ponds.

Over at **Edelman's Sportsman's Center** in Farmingdale, Fred Laager

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passed on word that fellow employee Bruce Hastings worked Lake Ronkonkoma until 1 a.m. Sunday morning. His efforts paid off as he managed two pickerel and four bass up to 3 pounds. Gold colored swiss swing spinners and the deep running Rapala Shad Rap did the job. Some nice black crappie are taking shiner baits in Lower Yaphank Lake.

At **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle,** Mike Andreani reported weighing in a 6.14 pound largemouth bass for Ronald Jiminez on Thursday. The lunker was taken from Blydenburg Park and fell for a six inch purple jellyworm. Shop regulars "Big Y" and "Bobby O" used doughball baits to cash in on some fast carp fishing in Hawley's Pond, Babylon. Friday afternoon they took seven carp from 4 to 8 pounds and dropped several others.

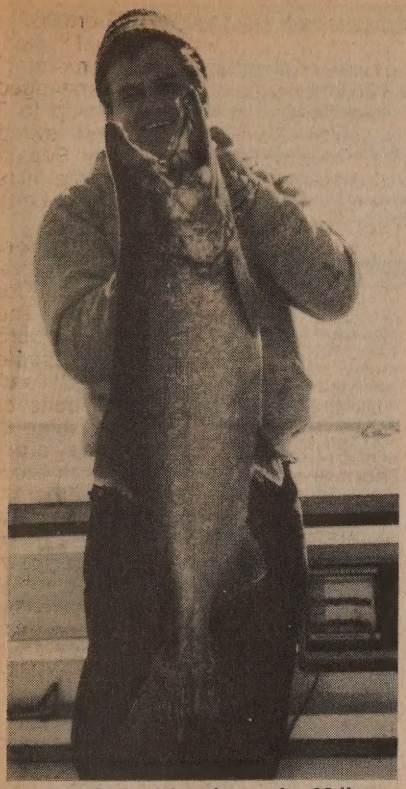
Speaking of carp, Tom over at **Augie's Bait and Tackle** in Babylon, knew that Ray Roberts caught five in Argyle Lake on Tuesday. Fooled by breadball baits, the fish were taken on four pound test line, and ranged from 9 to 14 pounds. Tom added that small bass and pickerel are still being taken from Southard's Pond.

Trout fishing in Connetquot River State Park has been very good according to park manager Gil Bergen. Several browns in the 2 to 3 pound class were reported from beats #23 and #24. Brooks, rainbows, and browns, in the 1 to 2 pound range have been plentiful at the Mill Tail. Small grey caddis flies have been the most effective pattern. Gill asked me to remind anglers that they must call for reservations if they want to insure a chance to get on the river.

Across the island, at Caleb Smith State Park in Smithtown, Mike Venuti reported slow action, especially on the main pond. The water here seems to be heating up a little faster than at Connetquot State Park and fishermen working this stretch will do better working the back stream section where the water is a little cooler.

From **J&R Sportsman's Center** in Oakdale, Phil tells us that Chris Bartik celebrated July 4th by pulling a 6.8 pound largemouth bass from Lower Yaphank Lake. Chris used a Hula Hopper to dupe the big bass and than set about taking carp of 15 and 13 pounds on bait. John and Fred Gobel fished the Connetquot River this week and accounted for thirty nine and twelve fish respectively. The fish ranged to 2.8 pounds and hit zug bugs. Also in the park, Jason Miller fished Sunday morning taking rainbows up to 4 pounds. Jason used green body caddis flies, sunk, and said the trout "just couldn't leave them alone."

Paul Graniello of **J&J Bait and Tackle** in Patchogue, told me that he weighed in a lot of bass in the 2 to 3 pound class over the last week. The largest fish came from the Peconic River System and weighed 5.6 pounds. Bernie Pawlak was the lucky angler. Pickerel seemed to be on the cooperative side this week with fish reported taken from Cannon Lake,



Mike Schneider shows the 28 lb. king salmon he caught during a charter on Lake Ontario with Captain Bill Johnson, of "Odyssey Charters."

Mill Pond, and Tuthill's Creek. Plenty of catfish taking worm baits in Swan Lake. Trout fishing has been slow.

Lots of small bass in Yaphank and Artist Lakes is the word from Al Schreier of the **Sportsman's Center** in Medford. A few good pickerel have also been hooked at the last spot, but not many have been landed. One lucky angler did weigh in a 5 pounder, but forgot to leave his name.

Out at Southaven Park, Mary Gallo described the fishing scene as being "real slow." Too many boats on the water is the likely reason for the void of fish. Largest trout of the week was a 15 inch rainbow taken in Hard's Lake.

On the east end of the Island, George Devlin of the **Fisherman's Deli** in Riverhead felt the fishing of late has been below par. A few small bass and panfish were taken this week, but that was about it.

From Rochester, New York, Bill Johnson of **Odyssey Charters** passed on word that the fishing has been pretty good lately. The thermocline has begun to set up and anglers are now working their lures in about forty feet of water over the eighty foot depths. Most of this fishing is done with downriggers and green or black and silver evil eye spoons have accounted for the most of the better scores. A mix of brown and lake trout combined with an occasional king salmon to 18 pounds have been keeping the crowds happy.

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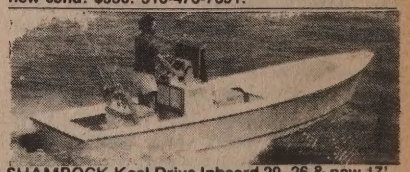

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25' 1983 BOSTON WHALER OUTRAGE. Super deluxe center console, 50 hrs. on 260 I/O Merc. Better than new. Leaning post, flying top set, rod holders, 150 qt. cooler & cushions. Loran C, VHF, compass, Lowrance X15, knot, depth, anchor. Replacement cost $42,000. $26,500. Wkdays: 718-625-5984. Wknds: 516-477-1043.

1979 BLACKFIN 25' Fisherman, twin Volvo diesels, custom tower. Full electronics. Mint cond. $39,000. 516-378-5072.

28' BLACKFIN 1980, twin 270 Crusaders, new canvas, fighting chair, Loran, VHF. Absolutely mint! 225 hrs. Must sell; new boat arriving soon. $33,000 or B/O. 516-957-6570.

27' PHOENIX 1980, twin 228 Chryslers FWC. Low hrs. Custom tower, chair, Furuno radar, ML5500 Loran, 2VHF, Lowrance recorder, sea temp. Much, much more! Like new. $49,500. Eves: 516-997-7438. Work: 212-246-4074. Wknds: 516-267-3371.

DIESEL ENGINES: Buda 50 hp, rebuilt. $1500. 3-53 Detroit, 105 hp, rebuilt. $2500. 914-783-2145.

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14' SPORTCRAFT, 40 hp Evinrude, Highlander tilt-trailer. New lights. Battery, seats, compass, water pump; bearings on trailer, bilge pump. Asking $1500. 516-724-0363.

19' BOSTON WHALER Outrage 1973, twin 65 hp Evinrudes, Caulkins Trlr, w/p.w. VHF, Si-Tex rec. Many extras. $9000. 516-668-3095. 718-987-1512 Eves.

PROLINE 1980 23' Deep V cuddy, 150 Evinrude, VHF, Lowrance. Extras. Excl. cond. Asking $8895. 516-796-5007, 352-3963.

Continued On Next Page

28' BERTRAM, F.D. Repowered 1980, twin 255 Mercruisers, FWC. Dual sta., Loran, VHF digital & paper recorders, SW washdown. fish box. Professionally maintained. $32,000. 516-678-3753.

23 LANCER 280 Volvo OD. Low hrs. on rebuilt V8. New chrome & interior. Sacrifice. 516-747-2392.

1983 SPORTCRAFT cuddy cabin w/walkaround deck—"Laurian." Evinrude 175 hp & 15 hp Kicker. Dual batt; new late '83. Fully equip. for bay to offshore fishing for sharks, school tuna. All engine instrumentation. All electronics incl. Loran C—no radar. Penn downriggers, trim tabs. Full canvas. CG safety equip.; 2 anchors/lines, BG tackle & lures/rigs,. Portable fight. chair, outriggers, gaffs, pro tail rope. Portable head, 5" TV. Too much to list! Sleeps—max.—2 adults & 1 child. A great weekend home away from home. Boat in Freeport. Wkdays: 201-898-3257. Eves: 201-326-9662.

MAKO 1976 20' center console. Mint cond. 82 Evinrude 150 hp, PT&T, SS prop, 180 hrs. incl. 15 hp Evinrude Kicker, SS wheel, rod racks. Spray & Bimini; compass. Mecca digital paper rec. Canvas. $8500. Eves: 718-225-2366.

31' 1977 BERTRAM F.B.C. Twin 454 Merc. Cruisers "0" hrs. since compl. rebuilding. Radar, Loran, SSB, VHF, CB, digital depth. Anchor winch, recorder, totalizer, GPH meter, constavolt, Lee Jr. chair, Lee Sr. outriggers. Interior new spring 85, 350 gal. fuel. Asking $55,000. 516-422-1444.

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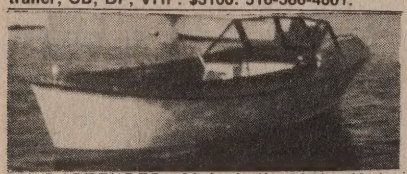

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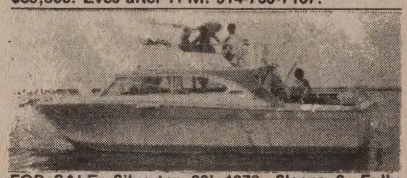

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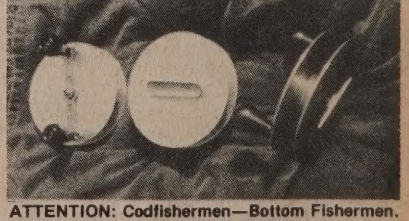

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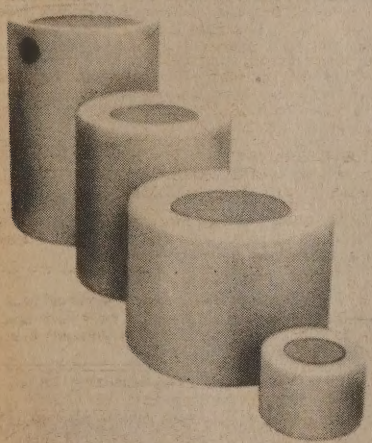

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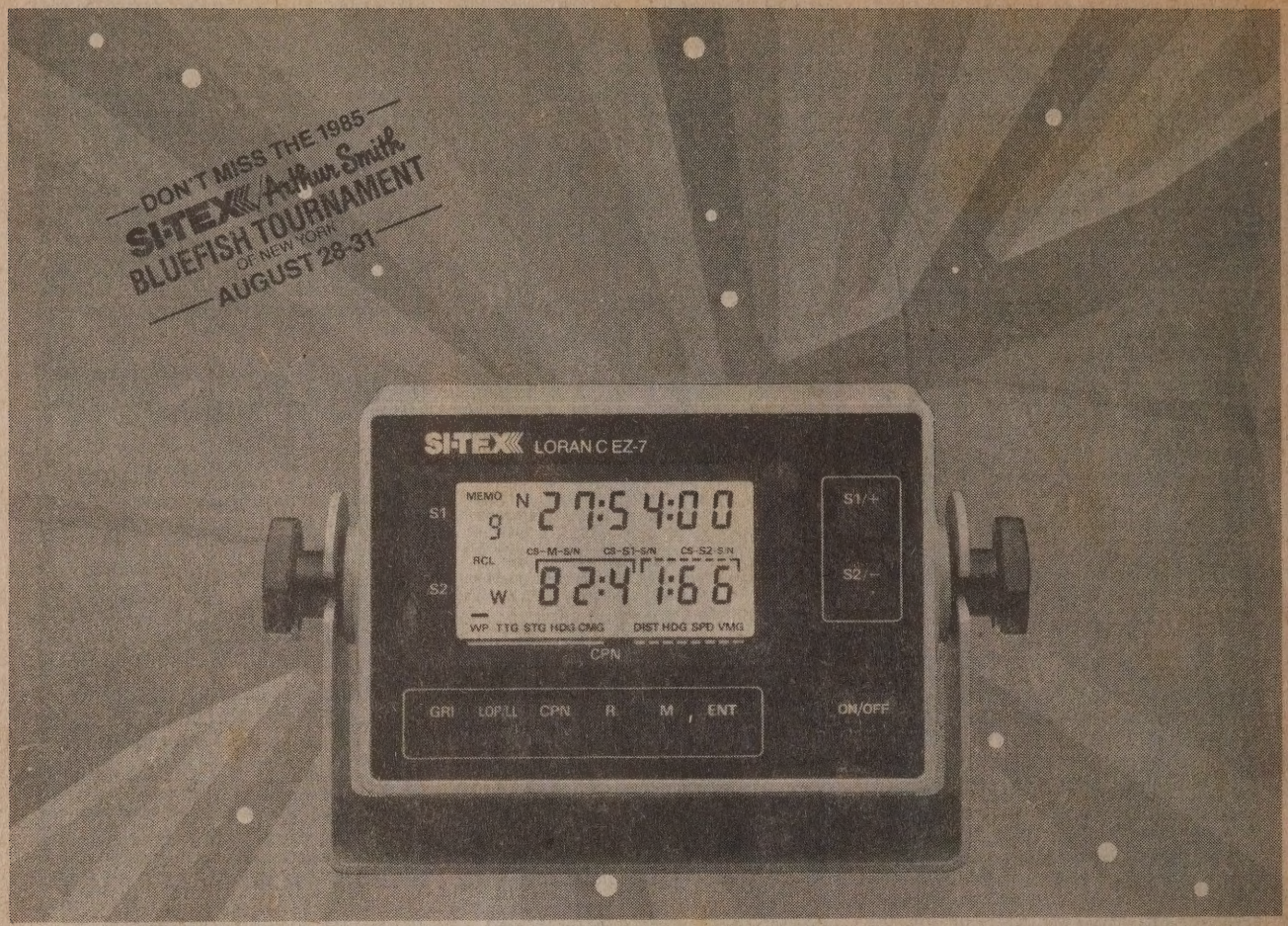

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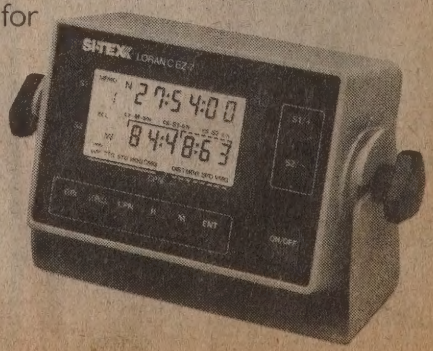

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